

Sixth Series, Vol. XIX No. 4

Thursday, November 23, 1978
Agrahayana 2, 1900 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Sixth Session



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
New Delhi

CONTENTS

COLUMNS

No. 4, Thursday, November 23, 1978/Agrahayana 2, 1900 (Saka)

Obituary Reference

1

Oral Answers to Questions :

*Starred Questions Nos. 61 to 63 2—22

Written Answers to Questions :

Starred Questions Nos. 64 to 80 23—38

Unstarred Questions Nos. 602 to 617, 619, 621 to 700, 702 to 765,
767 to 769 and 771 to 785 38—201

Papers laid on the Table 202—203

Statements of Public Accounts committee—

Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao 203—204

Calling Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance —

Reported shortage of diesel, kerosene oil and other petroleum pro-
ducts in the country 204—22

Shri K. Lakkappa 204, 207—11

Shri H. N. Bahuguna 205—207, 211—13, 215—17, 220—21, 222

Dr. Ramji Singh 213—15

Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia 217—20

Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari 221—22

Committee on Papers laid on the Table —

Tenth Report 222

Business Advisory Committee—

Twenty-fifth Report 223—28

Anti-Apartheid (United Nations, Convention Bill—*Introduced*. 228—29

*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

Matters under rule 377—

(i) Maintenance of temples and statues in Khajuraho—

Shri Nirmal Chandra Jain 229—30

(ii) Need for reorganisation of distribution pattern of soft coke for Southern States.

Shri K. T. Kosalram 230—31

(iii) Reported danger being faced by coal field areas after the rains and floods—

Shri Robin Sen 231

(iv) Reported agitation by the employees of General Insurance Corporation

Prof. Dilip Chakravarty 231—35

Discussion re: Annual Ravages of floods in various parts of the country 235—308

Shri Tridib Chaudhuri 235—41

Prof. Samar Guha 241—48

Shri P. M. Sayeed 248—51

Shri Chandra Shekhar Singh 251—54

Shri K. Suryanarayana 254—59

Shri M. N. Govindan Nair 259—62

Shri Asoke Krishna Dutt 263—70

Shri Chitta Basu 271—74

Shrimati Kamala Bahuguna 274—76

Shri Somnath Chatterjee 276—83

Shri Laxmi Narain Nayak 283—86

Shri K. T. Kosalram 286—90

Shri R. N. Rakesh 291—92

Shri Saugata Roy 292—96

Shri A.V.P. Asaithambi 296—98

Shri Pabitra Mohan Pradhan 299—300

Shri S. K. Sarkar 300—302

Shri Raj Krishna Dawn 303—306

Shri A. Murugesan 308

LOK SABHA

Thursday, November 23, 1978/Agrahayana 2, 1900 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri S. Balasubramaniam, who was a Member of the First Lok Sabha during the years 1952-57 representing Madurai constituency of the erstwhile Madras State.

Shri Balasubramaniam was closely associated with the Adult Education Programme and served as General Secretary, District Adult Education Committee, Madurai. A devoted social worker, he worked tirelessly for the uplift of Harijans and was a Member of the Central Advisory Board of Harijan Welfare. He served the people of his State in various capacities such as Vice-President, Shri Thyaga Brahma Bhakta Jana Sabha, Madurai, in 1947, and President of Agricultural Cooperative Bank. He passed away at Madurai on 18th November, 1978.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family. The House may stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.
The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

3051 LS-1.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Breakdown of Telephonic Communications in Calcutta

+

*61. SHRI RUDOLPH RODRIGUES:
PROF. SAMAR GUHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the breakdown in telephonic communications in several parts of Calcutta as a result of the recent floods in the city; and

(b) what steps have been taken to restore the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir, approximately 33,000 local lines went out of order during the floods.

(b) (1) Repair to external plants which were damaged due to floods was undertaken immediately after the floods, on a very urgent basis.

(2) A separate task force was set up for tackling the faults in Calcutta East—"35"/"36" exchanges where flooding of cable chambers caused break-down of primary cables affecting the entire telephone network.

(3) In all the areas, priority for restoration was given to all the essential services like Ministers, senior government officers, Police, fire-brigade, Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation, Calcutta Suburban Transport Corporation, State Electricity Board, Railways, Ambulance, Press etc.

(4) Restoration of all inter-exchange junction cables and distribution cables affected, were taken up simultaneously by deploying available cable maintenance staff.

(5) Control rooms for monitoring the progress of restoration of break-down have been opened in offices of the Area Managers and centrally at Telephone Bhavan.

(6) At present about 7,000 lines are still to be repaired.

SHRI RUDOLPH RODRIGUES: From the answer given it appears that they have restored approximately 3200 lines per week. This is about 1 cable or 1½ cables a day. In view of the fact that there are between 3000 and 5000 lines per week in Calcutta which are normally restored, this is no progress. I am asking by way of clarification, how long will it take to restore all the telephones so damaged. Secondly, is it not possible by stepping up the change to ducts, gas pressurisation and micro-wave links to do away with the present system of faults altogether in two or three years?

श्री नरहरि प्रसाद मुखर्जी साह : यह तो फ्लड के समय जो स्थिति थी, उस के बारे में बताया गया है। हमारे की स्थिति के बारे में नहीं बताया गया है।

MR. SPEAKER: How long will it take to put them in order?

श्री नरहरि प्रसाद मुखर्जी साह : यह 15 दिसम्बर तक हो जायगा।

SHRI RUDOLPH RODRIGUES: In view of the fact that for more than one month and in some cases two months, telephone subscribers have not been able to use their phones. Will the hon. Minister be gracious enough to consider the proposal for rebate or refund at least of the rental for this period for those who are affected?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJLAL VERMA): It is a national calamity that we are suffering for the present. It is none of our fault. So I think for that purpose everybody is suffering, the

whole nation is suffering and the Department is also suffering.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA: My friend, the hon. Minister is trying to take shelter under national calamity. The condition that is prevailing in Calcutta regarding Calcutta Telephone—if a word is suitable to describe it—chaotic condition is prevailing in regard to Calcutta Telephone not only during the floods, but even before that. You will remember, Sir, that I raised this question earlier a year before. The human failure and the instrument failure is so massive that the whole section of the press is critical of it. Thousands of complaints are there, 199 and 187, all kinds of telephone lines are often found dead. There is no response. There is wrong connection and wrong billing. What a horrible condition is existing in Calcutta telephones, it is really difficult to describe it.

You will remember that last year I made a humble suggestion to the hon. Minister, "Why do you take all the blame on yourself? You appoint a Parliamentary Committee, let them understand the problem, let them find out to what extent this is due to human fault or due to instrument fault. I made a fervent appeal to him. But in reply to that question, the hon. Minister has said "An official team would investigate into the causes of failure of Calcutta telephone." But there has been no improvement whatsoever. Calcutta people, Calcutta subscribers and Calcutta press, everybody is so vehement in their criticism.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA: This is only a plea. Flood calamity is no doubt there. But this problem was there even earlier and it continues to remain. I will request the Government again, whether the Government will set up a Committee of a few chosen Members of Parliament, who will go into the problems relating to either human or instrument failure and to

suggest means for its improvement. Will the hon. Minister accept this suggestion?

SHRI BRIJLAL VARMA: I have no hesitation in considering this proposal.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: I would like to know from the Minister (a) whether he or the Minister of State visited Calcutta after the floods to supervise the repairing of telephones and, if not, when he is due to visit the place; and (b) whether he has considered the setting up of micro-wave links between the different Exchanges in Calcutta so that they will not be affected by floods, and whether he is going to set up a Telephone Advisory Committee immediately in Calcutta to look after the problems of subscribers.

SHRI BRIJLAL VARMA: It is already there.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: The Telephone Advisory Committee is not there.

SHRI BRIJLAL VARMA: It is there.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: No, there is no Telephone Advisory Committee.

SHRI BRIJLAL VARMA: I can assure the House that there is a Telephone Advisory Committee. I can put the names of all the Members on the Table of the House. It is there.

As far as other things are concerned, I am taking special care in regard to Calcutta because I know there is a very bad situation prevailing there—not only because of the flood conditions, but otherwise also, there are bad conditions there. So, for that purpose, I have installed an internal micro-wave system there on an experimental basis and that system is working properly. Five to six more micro-wave systems to work internally within Calcutta are going to be installed at a cost of Rs. 3 crores so that the telephone system can work properly there.

As regards pressurisation of cables, I am doing that also. This year I

have done about 250 kilometres and next year I am going to do 500 kilometres. So, pressurisation of cables is also being implemented.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: I had asked the Hon. Minister whether he has visited Calcutta; he has not replied to that.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you visited Calcutta?

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: After the floods, has he visited the place? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY: It is my privilege to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that he gave a similar assurance last year that by 15th December, 1977 all the telephone lines in Calcutta and the services would be brought to a particular level. Was that commitment honoured? I remember....

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): No year was specified.

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY: This was the commitment given to the Hon. Members on the Floor of this House—that by 15th December, 1977 everything would be in order. The same commitment was repeated in Raj Bhavan last year in a Conference of Members of Parliament. I would like the Minister to tell us specifically whether that commitment was honoured by the Management of the Calcutta Telephons in Calcutta.

SHRI BRIJLAL VARMA: First of all, there was no assurance at that time.

Secondly, so far as improving the conditions is concerned, I can assure the House that, as compared to the previous year, this year it was much better, but for the floods. (*Interruptions*)

Shifting Site for Steel Plant

+

*62. SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government has decided to shift the Vijayanagar Steel Plant at Hospet in Bellary District to be located at Mangalore; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) It would not be correct to say that the Union Government has decided to shift the Vijayanagar Steel Plant at Hospet in Bellary District, which location was meant primarily for meeting the internal demand. The question of a shore-based export oriented plant at Mangalore is being considered separately and in an altogether different context.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN:
(Question started in Tamil.....)

MR. SPEAKER: During Question Hour no other regional languages are allowed.

SHRI K. GOPAL: The gentleman is there to interpret. Why are you objecting to this?

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: Last time you assured the House that you would make arrangement for this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. GOPAL: Interpretation arrangement is available. It is not the first time that this position has arisen. What is the difficulty? You please arrange to interpret his question put in Tamil.

MR. SPEAKER: The assurance given is that in all debates I would make arrangements for interpretation. So far as the Question Hour is concerned, it is not possible to arrange for interpretation in different languages. We

have only arrangement for two languages.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. GOPAL: No. This arrangement was done not by you. It was already done by Mr. Sanjiva Reddy. Why are you going back on your assurance? (Interruptions). I can understand if the Member talks in Latin or Arabic, the difficulty is there to interpret it. We do not make an issue of this. There are Members who cannot put questions in these two languages. You please consider this. (Interruptions)

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The UPSC has decided to hold examinations in various languages. If the UPSC can use all the regional languages for examinations, is it too much to expect you to allow the use of regional languages during the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. GOPAL: We do not want to make an issue of this. You please consider this. (Interruptions) Otherwise, you have two Parliaments—one in Delhi and another in Madras.

MR. SPEAKER: All my observations are on record. At no time have I said that during the Question Hour this arrangement could be possible. It is impossible to do so when there are 18 languages. Questions may be put in 18 different languages. But what we have done is supposing a person does not know English, in that particular case, as a special case, we can make arrangement.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Kumari Ananthan has written to me to say that he knows English, that he knows good English too. But what he says is that on principle he is putting the question in Tamil because his Party wanted him to put the question in Tamil. That is the difficulty. Now if I allow Mr. Ananthan, I must allow everybody.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. GOPAL: We have given a notice. The Interpreter is there. To-day, he knows English, but there are Members who do not know either English or Hindi. They cannot express themselves. You people talk so much of national languages and the mother tongue. Is this the way you treat it?

DR. P. V. PERIASAMY: Then you make arrangement for interpretation for all the 18 languages.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. To-morrow I am announcing a committee on languages. I shall refer this question to the committee and the Committee will consider it. Just now Mr. Venkatasubbaiah told me that I should allow him to put a supplementary question in Te'ugu. Then somebody will ask me that I should allow him to put a question in Bengali. I go by rules and nothing more than that.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record. Nothing is being recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: To-morrow I am announcing a Committee on Languages.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am not allowing.

Only when a member does not know the language....

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record. Nothing of the sort. I am not allowing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: During Question Hour only two languages and during debates all languages.....

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Shri D. D. Desai.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: May I ask two supplementaries?

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, one question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: What about Shri Kumari Ananthan's question?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri D. D. Desai. Please ask one question.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record. I have called Mr. Desai.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: May I ask the hon. Minister....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am announcing a Committee to-morrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Desai.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: May I know from the hon. Minister whether metallurgical and engineering consultants have been authorised to hold press conferences contradicting certain Ministers statements and whether the Ministers have evaluated the total tonnage of inputs, particularly coking coal which is scarce in India and the prospective sources of coking coal including the areas from Africa and whether he is considering the consumer market for utilisation of steel before selecting the sites or is the selection of sites based on political considerations?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: No site will be selected on the basis of political considerations. It will be entirely on the basis of economic considerations of....

*(Interruptions)***

If they want to ask question and do not want to listen to me, they are welcome.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called you.

Shri Janardhana Poojary.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: He has not answered my question.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that nothing is done on political consideration.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: My question was whether the tonnage of inputs was taken into consideration and how the two sites which are under question today, have been evaluated in terms of inputs and scarcities within the country particularly of coking coal? Whether he has considered the consumer market for utilisation of steel the selection of sites are not based on political considerations?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The selection of the site and export-oriented thing are being considered entirely on the basis of the economy of internal demand and external demand. I can guarantee him that.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I am really thankful to the hon. Minister for not shifting the Vijayanagar plant to Mangalore. But at the same time, he has stated that Mangalore plant will be an independent plant and it has nothing to do with the Vajayanagar steel plant. May I know whether the setting up of Managalore steel plant has been discussed with the West German and Romanian authorities to find out financial resources. Where exactly this steel plant is going to be set up in Mangalore and whether the survey work has been done and whether the State Government has been consulted?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Preliminary survey of the Mangalore Port based steel plant has been done. We are looking into the whole thing.

MR. SPEAKER: Whether the location has been fixed and whether the State Government has been consulted.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I had a talk with Shri Devraj Urs, the Chief Minister, long time back. There are serious difficulties about the Vijayanagar plant.

MR. SPEAKER: Whether the location has been fixed?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Everything is under consideration and when it is decided finally, the whole thing will come before the House. I would like to know the precise question.

MR. SPEAKER: The precise question is whether you have fixed the location; whether any assistance is available from German or Romanian sources.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Assistance or financing arrangement can be informed to the House only when it is finalised. Negotiations are going on with various parties.

About location, as far as port-based plant is concerned, Mangalore is one of the locations of the port-based plant. Three areas are being considered—Vishakhapatnam, Mangalore and Paradip. These are the three deep port areas in the country where you can take the ship inside the port.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: May I know who is correct in this decision—whether George Fernandes or the hon. Minister of Steel? If you believe both, they issued two contradictory statements. In the answer it is given:

"It would not be correct to say that the Union Government has decided to shift the Vijayanagar steel plant at Hospet in Bellary District...."

I am connected with the Bellary District because my constituency is very much near Bellary. That is the statement of the Steel Minister.

Then I will read the statement of Mr. George Fernandes published in *Deccan Herald* on Saturday, November 4, 1978. He made the statement

at the press conference. I will read the extract from this as follows:

"Asked whether in view of the fact that nearly two to three crores of rupees had already been spent at Hospet on the steel plant project whether the Government would consider locating it there instead of Mangalore, he said that the plant cost nearly Rs. 4,000 crores. Just because two or three crores of rupees were spent at Hospet on what was a political decision, the Government could not sink Rs. 4,000 crores there."

That means, his intention was not to start a factory at Hospet.

Now, I will tell you how it is politically motivated and how it is used for that purpose.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Is it a debate?

SHRI K. MALLANNA: I am putting a question. Now, in giving an answer to Mr. George Fernandes, our Chief Minister, Mr. Devaraj Urs, said, and I quote from *Deccan Herald* of October 26, 1978, as follows:

"The Centre had replied on September, 30 that it was considering the feasibility of setting up three steel plants, one each at Vizag, Mangalore and Paradeep. From this it was clear that there was no decision. It was to be noted that there was no mention of the Hospet steel plant on which crores of rupees had already been spent, and a decision on which had been taken after a detailed in-depth study of its economic feasibility."

"Mr. Urs said he would be writing to the Union Government in a day or two as to what it intended to do with regard to the Hospet plant.

Mr. Fernandes, according to press reports, was justifying the Mangalore plant proposal on the ground that coal for the plant could be brought by ships and economically this was more attractive than Hospet.

But Mr. Urs pointed out, when the State had made a proposal to the Centre to locate a thermal plant at Mangalore (This letter was written on July 15, 1977) on the ground that since Mangalore was now a major port, the needed coal could be brought by ships, the Centre had replied in August, 1977 that a thermal plant at Mangalore was not feasible in view of the high cost of power generation and had suggested to the State Government to consider a site nearer the Singareni coal-fields. 'How now Mr. Fernandes say that it is easier to handle coal at Mangalore and it is economically better than Hospet?' he asked."

MR. SPEAKER: What are you reading, Mr. Mallanna?

SHRI K. MALLANNA: All these people are indulging in double-talk.

MR. SPEAKER: You are converting the Question Hour into a debate. What is the question?

SHRI K. MALLANNA: The question is: May I know from the hon. Minister that in view of these facts, what is the progress being made so far as the Vijaynagar Steel Plant at Hospet in Bellary District is concerned? What was the allotment in the Budget? What is the fate of the Bellary Steel Plant?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am answering a question here which has been put, and that is, whether it is a fact that the Union Government has decided to shift the Vijayanagar Steel Plant at Hospet to be located at Mangalore. I have not taken upon myself god-like capacity that I can shift Vijaynagar to Mangalore. It is obvious. The question is not what they seek. I say, these are two separate things. One is export-oriented shore-based plant. Another is Vijayanagar Steel Plant originally conceived at that time, in 1971, 1972 and 1973 on certain conditions which have since rapidly changed both for the internal demand and for the world market. So, the first part is export-oriented shore-based plant. He is saying about what

is happening to Vijayanagar Steel Plant. Sir, outside the steel plant, only for the infrastructure, for the transportation of coal alone from North India to Hospet, the additional cost to be found by the steel project for the railways alone is Rs. 491 crores.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: It is wrong. It is from Madras port... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: For raising extra coking coal for this plant and non-coking coal, it will cost nearly Rs. 185 crores. Mr. Venkataraman can sit down and work it up with me. He has been a Planning Commission Member. The total extra cost for locating Vizayanagar steel plant comes to Rs. 825 crores, nothing to do with the steel plant, only the infrastructure outside the steel plant, the city and everything. This is an additional thing. The cost has gone up very substantially, coming to Rs. 1580 crores, only for the beginning of about three million tonne steel plant. Now the cost is mounting, the cost of production is very much higher, the availability of coking coal is not there. Coking coal will exhaust itself by the end of this century unless there is more production. Therefore, we are trying to get coking coal from outside, trying to locate coal from outside, which can only be through deep port based plants like Madras, Mangalore, Paradeep or Vaizag, only four ports, two ports have got outer harbours and two are naturally deep ports. This is the situation just now. The Government are considering.

I will come out with a whole paper before the Parliament and I will be glad if there is a debate so that everybody understands our limitations and what we should do about it. It is not a question of putting up a steel plant in my backyard or in his backyard. It is not a question of anything of that order. But the whole economy must be understood and whatever the Parliament decides, the Government will certainly do that.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: When the original decision to locate the

three steel plants in Salem, Hospet and Vaizag was taken, the entire question of economics of all these three plants was examined both by the experts and the Planning Commission. The cost of transport of coal, the cost of the services like coking coal to be established, they were all taken into account and the decision was taken. At the same time, the question of establishing deep port based plants was also examined. In view of the fact that coal has to be carried even to those deep port based plants and the cost of transport of coal to those deep port based plants was equally great. The decision was that in comparison with the other plants, these three would be viable and economic and that is why this decision was taken. The hon. Minister now said that the cost of transport of coal to Hospet and the cost of service like coking coal has increased and therefore there are second thoughts on this issue. Has not the price of steel increased? Has it not been compensated? Has it not been taken into account even in the original estimate made that there will be cost escalation and that it would be possible to establish these three plants even at the escalated cost? Now I want to know whether the Government has really examined this issue on economic basis in consultation with the experts or Mr. Biju Patnaik is giving way to the flights of his own imagination.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: To start with, I do not let myself to the imagination of Mr. Venkataraman, who has much more fertile mind than mine. The first thing is, his basis is wrong. The Government had at no time taken a decision to locate the plant there. Let that be made very clear. The previous Government had at no time agreed to that. All that they agreed to was to authorise preparation of a detailed project Report, what is known as DPR. Correct me, Mr. Venkataraman, if I am wrong. The DPR has been received by us only a few months back. When the DPR was received, all these additional factors have come in, all these additional constraints

have come in. Therefore, if Mr. Venkataraman is interested or if anybody else is interested, they are entitled to go through the entire cost system, the entire input system and you can certainly convince yourselves that what I am saying is not out of my imagination, not out of any political consideration, not decrying any decision of the Government, but purely on economic consideration and our present needs of the country and the constraints of the coking coal.

West Asia Peace Accord

+

*63. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received any communication from President Jimmy Carter of United States of America seeking its support to the Camp David accord arrived at by Egyptian President and Israel's Prime Minister for peace in the Middle East;

(b) if so, the Government of India's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government's stand has not been well received in the Arab world; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to make its stand clear to them?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Prime Minister sent a reply to the US President on October 8, 1978, on the Camp David Agreements. In his letter the Prime Minister reiterated India's declared policy which is that only a comprehensive solution to the West Asian problem would prove durable; such a solution must ensure Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories; recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the rights of all States in the region to live within secure borders; and that no agreement would

be sustained or stable unless the problem of Jerusalem and Golan Heights is also solved.

(c) No, Sir. The Government of India's stand has been appreciated in the Arab world.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Apart from the declaration of our Government's policy in regard to Israel by the Hon. Prime Minister while replying to US President on 8th October, may I know from the Hon. Minister what other efforts our Government has made or is making to ensure the return of territories forcibly occupied by Israel since the conflict of 1967, especially the return of West Bank and Ghaza to the Palestinians. The Palestinians suffered very much and further suffering should not be inflicted on them. So, what efforts have you made or are making apart from declaring our policy while replying to the U.S. President?

MR. SPEAKER: It does not arise the question is different. The question is merely in relation to the Agreement.

Now, your second supplementary.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: My point was—

MR. SPEAKER: Your point is very clear and important too, but it does not arise from the question.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Then, I would like to know whether President Carter's communication throws any light about the U.S. stand on Jerusalem and if so, what, and what is the Government's reaction thereto?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Our traditional policy in regard to the West Asian problem is well-known. I would like to emphasize that there has been no departure. If there are efforts to seek a possible peaceful solution to the problem, we do commend such efforts provided such efforts lead

to just solutions and the establishment of lasting peace.

Mr. Damani wanted to know our attitude in regard to Jerusalem . . .

MR. SPEAKER: No, I have not allowed that question.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: That was the question he put.

MR. SPEAKER: I have disallowed it.

He then asked, has Mr. Carter suggested certain things, and what is your reaction to the suggestion.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Please allow me to repeat my question. My question is, does President Carter's communication throws any light on the U.S. stand in regard to Jerusalem; if so, what, and what is the Government's reaction thereto?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Our position on Jerusalem is well-known.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is that? What about the meeting with the President Carter? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am coming to that.

MR. SPEAKER: All the while, running commentary goes on. How is it possible for him to answer questions?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: When I met the Secretary of State, Mr. Vance, I asked him what was the position of Jerusalem keeping in view the Camp David Agreements. He said the Agreement was silent. But the question of Jerusalem will be discussed once the process of settlement is set in motion. Obviously, I was not satisfied with that reply. So far as American stand is concerned, America has never accepted Jerusalem as part of Israel.

AN HON. MEMBER: How do you know that?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: They have made it clear. Jerusalem

must go back to Palestinian people. That is one of the main points which our Prime Minister emphasised in regard to the Camp David Agreements. Sir, we would like a comprehensive settlement in West Asia comprising Jerusalem.....

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: You have resiled from your position of support for the Palestinian rights.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You are not the only protector.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: I may not be the only protector but you are certainly not the protector.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: After the Camp David Agreements, I spoke in the United Nations and I reiterated the principles on which we would like the West Asia problems to be solved. There has never been any compromise so far as the principles are concerned and there will be no compromise.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The communication of the Prime Minister echoes the short-comings of the Agreement, as listed by the External Affairs Minister, namely—

(a) The Camp David Agreement does not concede to Palestinian people the inalienable rights including their right to setting up their national State,

(b) Agreements are silent on the Status of Jerusalem, and

(c) P.L.O. has not been accepted as the representative body of the Palestinian people.

These are three short-comings. Apart from these shortcomings, may I know from the hon. Minister whether there are political and military overtones in the Agreement of Camp David, which is according to me the object of the Camp David Agreement? The principal objects of the Camp David Agreement are:

(1) To extend NATO to West Asia,

(2) To link up Israel and Egypt in NATO against other Arab Nations.

(3) It resembles the Munich Agreement of 1938 which ultimately led to Second World War.

Now, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India will take the right position against this Agreement and condemn that it is not for peace but it is for war? Whether this unequivocal position is due to the fact that the Government of India does not want to displease the U.S.A. and oppose the global strategy of the U.S.A. in the South West Asia?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : The Government of India has taken a very forthright stand. But if my hon. friend is not convinced, I cannot help.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : You convince the House.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Our policy has been not to get ourselves involved in inter-Arab controversy. We have just received a message from the Iraqi President in his capacity as President of 9th Arab Summit held in Bagdad recently. In addition to India, the message has gone to France, Soviet Union, United States, Yugoslavia and China. At the Summit, all Arab nations except Egypt were present. The letter mentions unanimous acceptance of the principle that "no Arab country is permitted unilateral acceptance of any solution of the Palestine question in particular and the Arab-Israeli dispute in general." Mr. hon. friend refers to NATO coming in and then global impact of the Camp David Agreement. If other Arab countries do not accept this agreement, I do not see how this agreement can lead to establishment of peace in West Asia. It might create new tension, but it is not for me to comment whether it will lead to extension of NATO.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : You are very soft. You are expressing it in your own way. Why can you not express it in a very strong sentimental manner?

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Ravi, I have not called you.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : When I became the Foreign Minister, I decided not to approach questions relating to the foreign policy in a sentimental manner.

MR. SPEAKER : He says: "We do not involve ourselves in other people's disputes."

SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has conveyed its support to the strenuous peace efforts of President Sadat.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Prime Minister Desai also received a letter from President Sadat and he reiterated the same principles on which we would like the West Asian problem to be solved. Prime Minister Desai did point out that unless there is a comprehensive agreement....

(Interruptions)

I hope that President Sadat will listen to the advice tendered by Prime Minister Desai.

SHRI K. GOPAL : We, as a nation, have always the habit of reacting to any situation in the world, not only reacting but even attending the conferences including Rabat in those days. Sir, as far as Mr. Atal's bonafide is concerned, I do not doubt. He sincerely wants that our relations with foreign countries should be strengthened. He wants to do it with China, but Dr. Subramaniam Swamy came in and stopped it. It does not matter. I would like to know whether it is a fact that, immediately after the conclusion of Camp David Agreement, any call from Uncle Sam from the State Department came to Government of India and asked you to react in the manner you did.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : No, Sir. I emphatically deny it. Nobody came. So, the later part of the question does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

सुविधाएँ जेवनों में टेलीफोन और तार की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराना

*64. श्री अमर सिंह बौद्ध राठवा : क्या सरकार कृपया यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संचार का विचार बड़ौदा जिले के छोटा उदयपुर निर्वाचन-क्षेत्र जैसे आदिवासी क्षेत्रों के छोटे गांवों में जहां अधिकांशतया आदिवासी और ग्रामिक दृष्टि से पिछड़े वर्गों के लोग रहते हैं (70 प्रतिशत) तार और टेलीफोन की सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने का है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी व्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने 2000 जनसंख्या वाले गांवों को ये सुविधायें देने का निर्णय किया है और कि सभाचार-पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुआ है ;

(घ) क्या गुजरात में कुछ ऐसे गांव हैं जिनकी जनसंख्या 2000 से कम है लेकिन इनमें शिक्षित व्यक्ति रहते हैं और उच्चतर माध्यमिक विद्यालय हैं और जिनमें टेलीफोन और तार की सुविधायें उपलब्ध नहीं हैं ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार की कोई ऐसी योजना है कि चार-चार गांवों का ग्रुप या यूनिट बनाकर इन गांवों को टेलीफोन और तार की सुविधायें उपलब्ध कराई जाय और यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद) सुबदेव साह : (क) जी हां।

(ख) से (ङ) देहाती क्षेत्रों में टेलीफोन और तार सुविधाओं के विस्तार के लिए मौजूदा नीति में यह व्यवस्था है कि सामान्य इलाकों में 5,000 जनसंख्या और पहाड़ी तथा पिछड़े इलाकों में 2,500 जनसंख्या वाले स्थानों में लंबी दूरी के सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर और संयुक्त तारघर खोले जाएं भले ही इसमें घाटा हो और कम राजस्व प्राप्त होने की भी शर्त नहीं होगी।

आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में टेलीफोन और तार सुविधाओं के पर्याप्त विकास के लिए इन इलाकों के बारे में नीति प्राये और उदार बना दी गई है। साधारण और पिछड़े और पहाड़ी इलाकों के मामले में क्रमशः 5,000 और 2,500 की जनसंख्या सिर्फ एक गांव पर लागू होती है। आदिवासी इलाकों के मामले में यह निर्णय किया गया है कि 2,500 की जनसंख्या की सीमा किसी एक बड़े केन्द्रीय गांव के 10 किलोमीटर की अग्रिम दूरी के भीतर आने वाले गांवों के एक समूह पर लागू होती है यद्यपि कि एक

दूबरे गांव के बीच 10 किलोमीटर की अग्रिम दूरी के भीतर इस आधार पर कहीं भी दो सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर न खोले जाएं। केन्द्रीय गांव निर्धारित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित मानदंड लागू होंगे :—

1. आदिवासी विकास खंड मुख्यालय,
2. वे स्थान जहां एल 0 एल 0 पी 0 एस 0 (बड़े प्रकार की बहु-उद्देश्यीय सहाकारी समितियां) हों, और
3. ऐसे केन्द्र जिन्हें स्थानीय आदिवासी विकास विभागों ने गहन कृषि विकास के लिए बेहानी उद्योग और/या सिंचाई परियोजनाओं के लिए केन्द्र निर्धारित किया हो।

छोटा उदयपुर तालुक भी इस उदार नीति के अन्तर्गत में आ जाता है।

सभी दूरसंचार सफ़िलों के अधिकांशों को हाल ही में ऐसी दिशाएँ जारी कर दी गई हैं कि वे आदिवासी क्षेत्रों का पुनरीक्षण करें और ऐसे स्थान निर्धारित करें जहां इस आधार पर सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन संयुक्त डाक-तार घर खोले जा सकते हैं, और वे ऐसी योजना बनाएं ताकि छली पंचायतीय योजना के दौरान उत्तरोत्तर ऐसे सभी स्थानों पर सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर और संयुक्त डाक-तार घरों की व्यवस्था की जा सके।

Deaths due to Killer Disease (Encephalitis)

*65. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many lives have been lost on account of the killer disease 'encephalitis' in various States of the country;

(b) whether any World Health Organisation team has studied the situation for the ways and means of checking the disease; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Central Health authorities for checking the disease from spreading to other areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The number

of deaths due to Japanese B Encephalitis so far reported from various parts of the country during the current year is 2073.

(b) The WHO has been consulted on measures for controlling the disease.

(c) A statement containing the steps taken for controlling the outbreak of Encephalitis in the country is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Steps taken to control the outbreak of Encephalitis

(1) The Government of India have sent experts from the Directorate General of Health Services/Indian Council of Medical Research/National Institute of Communicable Diseases/National Institute of Virology to the affected States, namely, West Bengal, Bihar, U.P. and Assam, to advise them to take measures for the prevention of the disease. Senior Officers of my Ministry have also visited the concerned States and all possible assistance has been provided. I have also visited Bihar, U.P. and West Bengal.

(2) To assist the states the Central Government have provided on their expense additional quantity of (i) Insecticides—BHC and Malathion, (2) Sprayers and Fogging Machines—TIFA and Fontan.

(3) The Central Government have procured vaccine from Japan. They have developed guidelines for its use in consultation with WHO and Indian experts. The vaccine is being sent to the affected States.

(4) Supply of drugs like Mannitol with Dexamethasone have been arranged by the Government of India.

(5) Aurvedic and Homoeopathy drugs are being tried for the treatment of cases of Japanese B Encephalitis. Cases who have been admitted in the institutions providing Ayurvedic treatment are improving. Arrangements have been made to set up a 10-

bedded hospital in the Regional Research Institute, Calcutta. Similarly, it is proposed to set up a 10-bedded hospital near Patna (Bihar) for treatment of such cases.

(6) Health Education is being provided. People are also advised to take personal protective measures by way of wearing long sleeves shirts, use of repellent at night, mosquito nets, flitting in the House in the evening etc.

(7) A Project Report is being prepared on the possibility and viability of establishing a production unit of Japanese B Encephalitis vaccine in India.

Talks held with Nepal

*66. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARRASTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he visited Nepal in the recent past;

(b) the main points discussed with the Nepalese leaders;

(c) the agreements reached with the Nepalese leaders; and

(d) the particulars of the agreements concluded?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIR (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. The visit took place on 20-21 October, 1978.

(b) to (d). The visit to Nepal was in the tradition of periodic consultations on matters of mutual interest between the leaders of India and Nepal. As such, it was not meant for negotiating specific agreements. In discussions held with His Majesty the King, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister and other leaders of Nepal matters relating to Indo-Nepal cooperation in flood-control, various water projects agreed to during the Prime Minister's visit to Nepal in December, 1977 and other subjects of bilateral interest and international concern were covered.

Sino-Indian Relations

*67. SHRI B. P. MANDAL:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR
MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-China relations have recently improved;

(b) if so, whether China had taken initiative for starting a dialogue as disclosed by the statement of the Prime Minister as quoted in the *Times of India* dated the 20th October, 1978;

(c) whether Government of India stood firm in regaining the territories, illegally occupied by China; and

(d) if so, will the Minister be pleased to apprise the House of the latest development?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) to (d). Since India took the initiative of appointing an Ambassador to Peking about two years ago, there has been an improvement in the climate of relations between India and China. Trade relations have been resumed and exchange of delegations in diverse fields, including a visit by a cultural troupe have taken place. In keeping with this process, it was decided to respond positively to the invitation issued to Foreign Minister to visit China. It is hoped that when this visit takes place a dialogue to explore possibilities of further improvement of relations between India and China would ensue, as well as initial steps taken towards the settlement of outstanding issues, including the boundary question, between India and China. It will provide an opportunity to exchange views on matters of mutual concern and to reiterate the well-known stand of the Government of India on the Sino-Indian Boundary Question.

Revision of Steel Distribution System

*68. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI S. B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government is considering to revise the steel distribution system which has resulted in faulty steel supply;

(b) if so, whether the present policy has created Rs. 200 crores black money;

(c) if so, what are the changes likely to be made; and

(d) when the changes are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Government do not consider the current steel distribution policy as faulty; as such no revision of this policy is called for at this stage. However, the position is constantly kept under review.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Setting up of Special Courts for disposing of P.F. Cases

*69. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:
SHRI G. S. REDDY:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases related to the contravention of the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund Act are pending in the courts in different States;

(b) if so, the State-wise break-up of the total number of cases pending for less than 5 years and more than 5 years;

(c) whether the Union Government have directed States to set up special Courts for trial of the pending cases; and

(d) if so, the details and the State Governments' response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the State-wise break-up of pending cases is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d). The State Governments have recently been requested to take

steps to notify/nominate one or more of the existing courts at 27 places to exclusively try cases arising out of the contravention of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Schemes framed thereunder. Their response is awaited.

Statement

Name of the State	Cases pending		
	for less than 5 years	for more than 5 years	To.
Andhra Pradesh .	74		74
Assam	53	207	260
Bihar	6076		6076
Delhi .	374		374
Gujarat	333	59	442
Karnataka .	535	5	540
Kerala	438		438
Madhya Pradesh	378	92	470
Maharashtra	1917	93	2010
Orissa	217	154	371
Punjab	1002	212	1214
Rajasthan .	50	42	92
Tamil Nadu	574	48	622
Uttar Pradesh	817		817
West Bengal	9433	271	9704
	22321	1183	23504

Providing Tele-Communication and Postal Services in Tribal Areas

*70. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the lack of tele-communication and postal services in tribal sub-plan areas of the country;

(b) if so, the money earmarked by his Ministry to provide these facilities in tribal areas and released to the Circles for the year 1978-79; and

(c) the programmes chalked out for implementation particularly for tribal areas, Circle-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKH-DEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A Statement is placed on the Table of the House. (Placed in Library. See No. LT-2809/78).

Steel Plant at Paradeep

*71. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to West Germany he has received any assurance from the Government of West Germany for technical and financial help for setting up a steel plant at Paradeep;

(b) if so, whether the West German Government will bear the entire expenditure for the project; and

(c) whether Union Government have undertaken any feasibility study for setting up a steel plant at Paradeep and if so, the result of such study?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) to (c). During my recent visit to West Germany, the possibility of technical and financial cooperation between the German Industry and Financial Institutions and the Steel Authority of India for setting up a shore-based steel plant in India was discussed by me with the leaders of Government and Industry. The location, pattern of financing etc. are still under discussion.

Formulation of Central Legislation for Rural Workers

*72. SHRI S. R. REDDY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to take steps towards formulating central legislation for safeguarding the interests of rural workers by constituting a committee consisting of representatives of the States, central trade unions and eminent social work-

ers engaged in welfare work among rural labours; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI): (a) and (b). The need for a Central legislation for agricultural workers was discussed at the Special Conference on Rural Unorganised Labour held on 25th January, 1978. Further consultations are being held with the State Governments in the light of the views expressed at the Conference. Following a recommendation of the Special Conference, a Central Standing Committee on Rural Unorganised Labour has been constituted to advise Government *inter alia* on matters relating to the proposed Central legislation for Agricultural Workers. A copy of the Government Resolution constituting the said Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT2810/78]. The endeavour is to complete the process of consultation with the State Governments as early as possible and take into account the views of the State Governments during the deliberations of the Committee.

Villages without Health Centres

*73. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the survey conducted by Birla Institute of Scientific Research in the villages of West Bengal, Maharashtra, Orissa and Punjab which noted that the villages of these States did not possess any health centre even after 30 years of independence; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI

PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b). The Birla Institute of Scientific Research conducted a survey of living conditions in 12 villages selected at random in the States of West Bengal, Maharashtra, Punjab and Orissa at the rate of 3 in each State. In this survey, they noticed that the villages selected for survey in West Bengal, Maharashtra and Orissa did not have any Health Centre while in the State of Punjab 2 out of 3 villages had one Health Centre each.

Health services in rural areas are provided through a network of Primary Health Centres, Sub Centres, Rural dispensaries, etc. Each Primary Health Centre covers a population varying between 80,000 to 1,00,000. Each Sub Centre covers a population of 10,000 which approximately would mean 10 villages. It is proposed to establish additional Sub Centre so as to reach the norm of one Sub Centre for every 5,000 population by 1987-88. It would not be possible to establish a Health Centre in every village.

Providing direct telephone line from Gadarwara to Nagpur and an additional Telephone line to Jabalpur

*74. SHRI NIRMAL CHANDRA JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of "Galla Vyapari Sangh" Gadarwara, M.P. had represented that a direct telephone line from Gadarwara to Nagpur and an additional telephone line from Gadarwara to Jabalpur is very essential and in the absence of the same, they feel great difficulty in communication with both the said places;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon; and

(c) when the above demands of Gadarwara people are likely to be complied with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO

3051 LS-2.

SAIJ: (a) and (b). No Sir, but other representations have been received by Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs.

(c) An additional circuit to Jabalpur is likely to be provided by the end of the year. Direct circuit to Nagpur will be provided after the commissioning of Microwave link between Jabalpur and Nagpur, which is expected sometime middle of the next year.

बिहार में हैजा

*75. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इन दिनों बिहार के बाढ़प्रस्त क्षेत्रों में हैजे का रोग बढ़ रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो राज्य में हैजे से कितने व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि हैजे से अधिकांश मौतें भागलपुर जिले में हुई हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो इस रोग को रोकने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकार को क्या सहायता दे रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगबन्दी प्रसाद यादव) :
(क) बिहार में बाढ़ से प्रभावित किसी भी क्षेत्र से हैजा की घटनाएं होने की सूचना नहीं मिली है ।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(घ) भारत सरकार ने 5,84,240 रुपये के मूल्य की हैजा-निरोधी वैक्सीन बिहार सरकार को उधार देने की व्यवस्था की है ।

नसबन्दी पर व्यय

*76. श्री इश्वर चौधरी : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आपात स्थिति के दौरान मंत्रालय ने प्रतिवर्ष नसबन्दी पर कितना व्यय किया ;

(ख) इस समय इस कार्य पर प्रतिवर्ष कितनी धनराशि खर्च की जा रही है ;

(ग) गत दो वर्षों में इस संबंध में हुई वार्षिक प्रगति का व्योरा क्या है ; और

(ब) क्या उक्त प्रयोजन के लिये मंजूर अमरासि का उचित उपयोग किया गया है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगबन्दी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) नमबंदी पर किए गए व्यय के अलग आंकड़े नहीं रखे जाते हैं क्योंकि इस कार्यक्रम में कई सेवाएं शामिल हैं। 1975-76, 1976-77 के दौरान लूप निवेशनों तथा नमबंदी कराने पर मुद्रावर्ज के रूप में मंत्रालय द्वारा दी गई सहायता और विभिन्न कार्यान्वयन एजेंसियों द्वारा किया गया व्यय इस प्रकार है :—

अनन्तिम भुगतान के रूप में केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा दी गई सहायता	राज्य सरकारों द्वारा बताया गया अनुमानित व्यय
---	--

(रुपये लाखों में)

1975-76	1097.13	1335.79
1976-77	7786.03	9767.86

(ख) 1978-79 के दौरान लूप निवेशन और नमबंदी के मुद्रावर्ज के लिए 1500 लाख रुपये का प्रावधान किया गया है।

(ग) 1976-77 और 1977-78 के दौरान जितने नमबंदी आपरेशन किये गए उन का विवरण इस प्रकार है :—

1976-77	82,61,173
1977-78	9,47,597

(घ) परिवार कल्याण कार्यक्रम जिसके लिए भारत सरकार शत प्रतिशत सहायता देती है, राज्य तथा संघशासित क्षेत्रों की सरकारों द्वारा लागू किया जाता है। परिवार कल्याण विभाग द्वारा दी गई सहायता अनन्तिम है और उसका अन्तिम समायोजन राज्य लेखाकारों से जो इसके उचित उपयोग के जिम्मेदार हैं, व्यय के लेखा परीक्षित आंकड़े मिलने के पश्चात् किया जाएगा। वैसे यह बताया गया है कि यह छन उम्मी प्रयोजन के लिए उपयोग में लाया गया है जिसके लिए वह मंजूर किया गया था।

Foreign Minister's Visit to China

*77. SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH:

SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister proposes to visit China in the near future for

talks with the representatives of the Government of Peoples Republic of China on various issues of common interest;

(b) if so, when and the names together with their official designations of persons in China with whom talks will be held,

(c) whether any preliminary or preparatory talks have already been held at ambassadorial or other level;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the agenda for talks between the Minister and the representatives of the Chinese Government;

(f) whether the question of border between India and China will be discussed on a priority basis, in view of the Prime Minister's reported statement that there cannot be full fledged friendly relation between the two countries unless the border issue is satisfactorily resolved; and

(g) the composition of the team which will accompany the Minister?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). No fresh date for the visit has yet been fixed. Mutually convenient dates will be fixed as soon as possible. Apart from discussions at the level of Foreign Ministers the opportunity will be availed of for meetings with senior members of the Chinese Govt. On the basis of preparatory discussions, it is expected that talks during the visit will cover all questions of mutual interest, including bilateral questions and matters of international concern.

(f) The Sino-Indian Boundary question will figure in the discussions and consistent with Government's stand views will be exchanged for its peaceful resolution.

(g) It is expected that the Minister for External Affairs will be accompanied to China by some senior officials of the Government of India.

Ship Breaking Industry

*78. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM:

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote ship-breaking as an organised industry to augment the availability of scrap;

(b) if so, the ports where this ship-breaking industry is proposed to be started; and

(c) what is the mechanism and agency for buying old ships and making them available to local entrepreneurs for breaking?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to spread the ship breaking activity to as many ports as possible, depending on their suitability to accommodate different types of ships for breaking and sites being made available for this purpose.

(c) Import of re-rollable scrap in the form of old ships for breaking is canalised through Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited (MSTC). The Corporation will directly negotiate and purchase old ships from abroad for breaking, on the advice of a committee consisting of representatives of MSTC, Iron and Steel Controller, Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and representative of Finance Department of SAIL. It will float limited tenders amongst the units who register their requirements with the canalising agency. The vessel will be allotted to the highest valid bidder.

Extension to Chief Labour Commissioner

*79. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state.

(a) whether the declared policy of Government in retiring officers and

staff at the age of 58 years has been violated in the Labour Ministry by giving two-six-months extensions after 58 years of age to the present Chief Labour Commissioner; and

(b) the reasons for such extensions against the declared policy of Government by blocking the due promotions of deserving officers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA):

(a) and (b): Extensions have been given in the public interest.

Discussions held with Sri Lanka President

*80. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether President of Sri Lanka visited India during the month of October, 1978;

(b) if so, nature of discussions held with the Indian leaders; and

(c) the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAEYEE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Discussions with president Jayewardene covered important international issues as well as bilateral co-operation. It was agreed that the Indo-Sri Lanka Sub-Committee on Economic Co-operation should meet more frequently and the two Governments will exchange delegations to suggest methods to increase trade flows and to stimulate investment in joint ventures in Sri Lanka.

Shortage of accommodation in Poona City Sorting Office and Pune RMS

602. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3628 on the

10th August, 1978 regarding shortage of accommodation in Poona City Sorting Office and Pune RMS and state:

(a) when the Railways have been addressed to provide extension of PUNE R.M.S. building under deposit scheme in order to remove the shortage of accommodation and the response of Railways; and

(b) whether any other steps have been taken to arrest the conjunction and shortage of accommodation in PUNE sorting office and PUNE R.M.S.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI) (a) The matter of extension of Pune RMS was taken up with the Central Railways on 4.3.1978. Sanction for this construction as a 'Deposit work' was issued on 6.10.1978. The work is expected to be taken up by the Central Railways during 1978-79.

(b) Construction of accommodation measuring 3450 Sq. ft. for the R.M.S. in Pune Head Office compound has been approved. The work has been included in the Building Programme for 1979-80.

Alumina Plants

603. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of alumina plants functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish more alumina plants;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this respect; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA):

(a) Five.

(b) to (d): Large deposits of bauxite have been discovered on the East Coast. The survey work has been carried out by the Geological Survey of India and Directorate of Mines, Orissa in different blocks. Subsequently, details proving has been undertaken by the Mineral Exploration Corporation. Sizeable bauxite deposits have also been established as a result of exploration studies carried out in Gujarat. With a view to exploiting these bauxite deposits, feasibility studies have been commissioned for setting up alumina plants in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. Details will be known only after the feasibility studies are completed around the middle of 1979.

Decision on the setting up these alumina plants will be taken after their viability has been established through the feasibility reports.

Provision of Jullundur-Dharamshala U.H.F. Link

604. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the given to Unstarred Question No. 1707 on the 27th July, 1978 and state the progress so far made in providing Jullundur-Dharamshala U. H. F. Link?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEV SAI)

(i) Jullundur-Dharamshala UHF scheme has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 21 lakhs.

(ii) The survey work for the scheme has been completed.

(iii) The scheme has been engineered from existing Microwave Station at Jullundur with a repeater station at Barwain. The land acquisition for construction of repeater station at Bharwain and terminal station at Dharamshala is in progress.

It is hoped the scheme will be completed during 1980-81.

Medical Store Depot, Madras

605. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an "Expert Committee" has visited the Government Medical Store Depot, Madras a couple of months back, under the orders of the Government of India, if so, for what purpose;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Expert Committee had submitted their report to Government, if so, when and the details thereof; and

(c) when the above report will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE: (SHRI JAGADAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes. A "Committee of Experts" was set up to visit the Factory attached to the Government Medical Store Depot, Madras and advise on the techno-economic viability of utilizing the Oil Fired Cornish Boiler, purchased earlier, for the manufacture of Parenteral preparations in the Factory and also regarding the possibility of expansion of the existing manufacturing activities in the Factory.

(b) The Committee visited the Depot on the 4th and 5th of September and submitted its report to the Government on 2nd November, 1978. Briefly, the Committee have observed:—

(1) For ensuring the utilisation of the Oil Fired Cornish Boiler it would be necessary to take up new lines of production such as transfusion solutions and injections the manufacture of which could consume steam, to be generated by the Boiler.

(2) Suitable renovations would be required in the Factory to make it run on modern lines.

(3) Expansion of the existing testing facilities would be required to

enable the Factory to meet the additional work load that would devolve on the laboratory consequent on the proposed expansion of the manufacturing activities.

(4) The Medical Stores Organisation should be converted into a Company.

(c) The report is under consideration.

C.G.H.S. Dispensary, Narain Vihar, New Delhi

606. DR. RAMJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CGHS Dispensary at Narain Vihar, New Delhi is well equipped, adequately staffed and the accommodation occupied by it is sufficient;

(b) if so, whether night duty doctor's services and specialists' services are also available in the dispensary; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof and the steps being taken to remove the difficulties of the beneficiaries of this dispensary in the absence of the above facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGADAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The CGHS Dispensary at Narain Vihar, New Delhi is as well equipped as any other dispensary in the CGHS, Delhi, and has been provided with staff on the basis of existing norms. The accommodation occupied by the dispensary, however, is not sufficient.

(b) and (c). The CGHS Dispensary of Narain Vihar, is a non-functioning dispensary which provides medical services only in the morning and evening shifts. Only a functioning dispensary provides medical services round the clock. Some functioning dispensaries also have specialists' services. The beneficiaries of Narain Vihar dispensary are referred to the Rajouri

Garden dispensary which is a functioning dispensary, for these services.

सवाई माधोपुर जिले के तहसीलों को डाक सेवाओं के मामले में पिछड़ा घोषित करना

607 श्री भीठा लाल पटेल : क्या संचार में यह बताने की पा करेंगे कि :

(क) या राजस्थान डिजीशन, जयपुर के डाकघरों के मानिदेशक ने सिफारिश की है कि सवाई माधोपुर की कुछ तहसीलों की डाक सेवाओं की दृष्टि से पिछड़ा घोषित किया जाये ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसी तहसीलों और उनमें आने वाले क्षेत्रों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके बारे में सिफारिश की गई है ; और

(ग) इन जगहों को पिछड़ा कब घोषित किया जायेगा और यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुब्बादेव साय) : (क) जी हां। पोस्टमास्टर-जनरल, राजस्थान सर्किल, जयपुर ने इस तरह की सिफारिश मजी है।

(ख) यह सिफारिश की गई है कि डाक सुविधाओं का विस्तार करने के उद्देश्य से सवाई माधोपुर जिले की दो तहसीलों अर्थात् (i) करौली और (ii) माधोवा को पिछड़ा हुआ माना जाय।

(ग) इस प्रस्ताव पर सक्रियता से विचार किया जा रहा है।

इस्पात के मूल्यों में वृद्धि

608 श्री सुरेन्द्र भा समन : क्या इस्पात और ज्ञान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत पांच वर्षों के दौरान इस्पात के मूल्यों में कितनी वार्षिक वृद्धि हुई है ;

(ख) इस्पात के मूल्यों को नियंत्रित करने के लिए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

इस्पात और ज्ञान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री-किशोरा मुर्ध) : (क) विवरण सभापटल पर रख दिया गया है [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया है देखिये संख्या एलटी-2811/78]

(ख) मुख्य इस्पात कारखाना द्वारा उत्पादित इस्पात के मूल्य संयुक्त मंत्र मिति द्वारा निर्धारित किये जाते हैं।

मूल्य में वृद्धि के मुख्य कारण निम्नलिखित हैं :—

(क) लागत में वृद्धि ;

(ख) रेल—भाड़ों में वृद्धि ;

(ग) उत्पादन-शुल्क में वृद्धि ;

(घ) विकास अधिमार्ग लगाना, और

(ङ) आयात-मूल्य का समीकरण।

उत्पादित को बढ़ाने और उत्पादन लागत को बनाये रखने के लिए इस्पात के निर्माण की प्रौद्योगिकी का आधुनिकीकरण करने और उसे प्रशस्त करने के लिए बहुत से उपाय किये जा रहे हैं।

एवररेस्ट पेपर मिल्स (प्राइवेट) लिमिटेड कलकत्ता द्वारा जमा कराई गई भविष्य निधि तथा कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा की राशि

609 श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) एवररेस्ट पेपर मिल्स (प्राइवेट) लिमिटेड चौरंगी रोड, कलकत्ता द्वारा गत दो वर्षों के दौरान भविष्य निधि तथा कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा योजना की कितनी राशि जमा कराई गई है ; और

(ख) क्या यह कागज मिल गत तीन वर्षों में श्रम कल्याण कानूनों का उल्लंघन करता रहा है ; और यदि हां, तो सरकार को इस संबंध में कितनी शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं और वहाँ श्रेणी 4, 3 तथा 2 के कितने कर्मचारियों को बिना कोई कारण बताओ नोटिस दिये छुट्टी किया गया है तथा इस समय वहाँ किसने ठेका श्रमिक तथा दैनिक मजदूरी श्रमिक काम कर रहे हैं तथा क्या बहुत से श्रमिकों को उनकी मजदूरी नियमित रूप में नहीं दी जा रही है और क्या सरकार इस संबंध में कार्यवाही करेगी ?

श्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम कृपाल सिंह) : (क) : यह सूचित किया गया है कि मैसर्स एवररेस्ट पेपर मिल्स (प्राइवेट) लिमिटेड, कलकत्ता ने अगस्त, 1978 तक की देय भविष्य निधि राशियों का भुगतान कर दिया है। भविष्य निधि में जमा कराई गई धन-राशि व्योरा संलग्न विवरण में दिया गया है। मिल सितम्बर, 1978 से बंद पड़ी है।

यह सूचित किया गया है कि गत दो वर्षों के दौरान मैसर्स एवररेस्ट पेपर मिल्स ने कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा के अंशदाओं के रूप में 80,990.69 रुपये की धनराशि जमा करवाई है।

(ख) यह मामला राज्य के क्षेत्राधिकार में आता है और केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास इस संबंध में कोई सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है।

विवरण

बैसस एबरेस्ट पेपर मिल्स (प्राइवेट) लिमिटेड, कलकत्ता द्वारा भविष्य निधि में जमा कराई गई धन राशि का व्योरा।

10/76	8230.00
11/76	8204.50
12/76	9133.00
1/77	8673.10
2/77	7752.00
3/77	8451.50
4/77	8530.00
5/77	8280.50
6/77	8399.00
7/77	8330.00
8/77	9046.50
9/77	8950.00
10/77	8754.50
11/77	8025.00
12/77	8973.00
1/78	8634.00
2/78	8140.00
3/78	8710.50
4/78	8360.00
5/78	8481.50
6/78	7857.00
7/78	8250.00
8/78	8166.00

मिल सितम्बर,
1978 से बन्द
है।

Installation of MAX II Exchange at Shertallai, Kerala

610. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the installation of MAX II Exchange at Shertallai (Kerala) telephone exchange is delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons for such delay which is causing very inconvenience to the public; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the completion of MAX II Exchange at Shertallai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The equipment supplies from I.T.I. have been delayed due to severe power cuts and certain labour problems.

(c) Action has been taken to expedite supply of equipment. The exchange is expected to be commissioned during 1979-80.

खुशीदलाल भवन, नई दिल्ली से कूद कर एक महिला की मृत्यु

611. श्रीमती पार्वती दबी : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या डाक-तार विभाग की एक 25 वर्षीय महिला कर्मचारी, श्रीमती दर्शन की खुशीद भवन, जनपथ, नई दिल्ली की सातवीं मंजिल से कदने में मृत्यु हो गई थी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो घटना का व्योरा क्या है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुखदेव साय) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) 25 वर्षीय श्रीमती दर्शन, दिल्ली टेलीफोन, नई दिल्ली में महिला सफाई कर्मचारी के बतौर काम कर रही थी। वह डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया अस्पताल, नई दिल्ली के नजदीक 'जी' प्लांट के डाक-तार क्लबिंग में सफाई कर्मचारी के बतौर ह्यूटी कर रही थी। उसका पति श्री नरेश भी राजपथ टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज में सफाई कर्मचारी के बतौर काम कर रहा है। वे रायमोना रोड, नई दिल्ली में रहते थे। तारीख 1-11-1978 को वह खुशीदलाल भवन, नई दिल्ली में आगे और सातवीं मंजिल से उस इमारत के मुख्य भाग की तरफ से जमीन पर कूद पड़ी। वह घटना स्थल पर ही मर गई। पुलिस को इस घटना की सूचना दे दी गई। उन्होंने इसकी छानबीन की और उसके शव को पोस्टमार्टम के लिए ले गए। जिन परिस्थितियों की वजह से उसने आत्महत्या की उनका ठीक-ठीक पता नहीं चल सका है। वह अपने पीछे छपन पति के अलावा चार भव्यस्क लड़के छोड़ गई है, जिनमें से दो लड़के डाक-तार स्कूल भ्रतुलप्रोव, नई दिल्ली में पढ़ रहे हैं। इस परिवार को तारीख 2-11-78 को कल्याण निधि से 500 रुपये की आर्थिक सहायता दी गई थी। दिवंगत कर्मचारी के दावों के निपटारे के लिए कल्याण निरीक्षक हर संभव सहायता दे रहे हैं।

Telephone Exchange at Bairad, M.P.

612. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether that demand for setting up a telephone exchange at Bairad, District Shivpuri in Madhya Pradesh, an important business centre, is pending consideration with Government;

(b) if so, its present position; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up the Exchange there in near future and if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Not Applicable.

(c) No demand is registered for telephone connections at Bairad at present. 18 to 20 connections are required to make the scheme of opening of 25 lines small automatic exchange economically viable. Opening of exchange at Bairad (District Shivpuri) will be taken if the requisite demands for telephone connections are registered.

Production under fruit name

613. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, if a product is to be named as a fruit then minimum 10 per cent juice of that fruit is required in the same product; and

(b) if not, whether the product can be identified with that fruit or not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b). Fruit products are not defined in a general way under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act or the Rules made thereunder. Specifications

have been laid down for various specific fruit products like fruit syrup, fruit juice, fruit squash, fruit beverage or cordial or crush in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules under item A. 16 of Appendix B. The minimum requirement of total soluble solids or fruit juice content for different products is prescribed in the said Appendix, item-wise.

Attack on Indian Embassy car in Beirut

614. SHRI CHATURBHUI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Embassy car came under heavy sniper fire in Beirut and the driver was hurt in the leg when the car was returning from Beirut airport carrying some Embassy officials; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The staff car of the Embassy of India, Beirut, came under heavy sniper fire on 1st November, 1978 when it was returning from the airport to the Embassy Residence. The car was driven by a locally recruited chauffeur and was occupied by an official of the Embassy, Shri P. N. Khanna, and a locally recruited messenger. The chauffeur was injured in the right leg and the others were unhurt. The car suffered considerable damage.

Our Embassy in Beirut has lodged a formal protest with the Lebanese authorities in connection with the firing incident. The Lebanese government has been asked to ensure the safety of our Embassy personnel stationed in Beirut.

Report of Chief Director National Sample Survey

615. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Director of National Sample Survey in his report

of November, 1970 had suggested that a study in depth should be made of relationship between ash content in coal and coal quality on iron making operation, so as to balance the losses, if any associated with higher ash content against the gains resulting from higher recovery of coal to arrive at an optimum formula;

(b) has any exercise been done by Steel Plants Research laboratory;

(c) if so, what are the observations; and

(d) if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Research Laboratories attached to the Steel Plants have been studying the effect of high ash coking coal on the production of coke for use in Blast Furnaces and also the effect of the lower yields on washing high ash coal.

(c) The main observations are as under:—

(i) 1 per cent increase in ash in coal results in increase of coke rate in the Blast Furnaces by 30-40 Kg.

(ii) 1 per cent increase in ash in coke reduces the productivity of Blast Furnaces by 2-4 per cent.

(iii) 1 per cent increase in ash in feed coal for the washery reduces the yield by 3-6 per cent.

(iv) Coal containing not more than 17 per cent ash should be made available for better and controlled operation of the Blast Furnaces.

(d) Does not arise.

नकली औषधियों का निर्माण

616. श्री गंगा लक्ष्मण सिंह : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि देश के अनेक भागों में नकली औषधियों का निर्माण बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर हो रहा है और बाजारों में

उनकी बिक्री के कारण रोगी असाध्य रूप धारण कर रहे हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसको रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या उद्घम उठाए गए हैं और नकली औषधों के निर्माण को किसने मामले सरकार के ध्यान में आये हैं; और

(ग) उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही क गई है ?

(स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री श्री जगदम्बो प्रसाद यादव) : (क) से (ग) : सरकार को ऐसी कोई रिपोर्ट नहीं मिली है। तथापि, यह बताया जाता है कि औषध एवं प्रसाधन मामली अधिनियम और उसके अधिनियमों के उपबन्धों के अन्तर्गत औषधियों के निर्माण और बिक्री पर नियंत्रण राज्य औषधि नियंत्रण प्राधिकारियों द्वारा किया जाता है।

गलत श्रेण्ड की (न की) औषधियों अथवा मिलावटी औषधियों का निर्माण/बिक्री करना उक्त अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत एक अपराध है। नकली औषधि के निर्माण और बिक्री को रोकथाम करने के लिए केन्द्रीय औषधि मन्त्रक नियंत्रण संगठन द्वारा जो उपाय किए गए हैं वे संलग्न विवरण में दिए गए हैं।

इस अपराध के लिए कम से कम दण्ड एक वर्ष की कैद है या यह दस वर्ष तक की हो सकती है। तथापि, न्यायालयों को निर्धारित न्यूनतम गजा में भी कम गजा देने के स्वाविवेकाधिकार दिए गए हैं।

विवरण

नकली दवाइयों के निर्माण तथा बिक्री को रोकथाम के लिए किए गए अथवा किए जाने वाले उपाय।

1. बिना लाइसेंस प्राप्त किए औषधियों का निर्माण करने वालों को जो प्रायः नकली औषधियों का निर्माण व बिक्री करते हैं, इस व्यवसाय से हटाने के अभिप्राय से "लाइसेंस प्राप्त औषधि निर्माताओं की एक अखिल भारतीय सूची तैयार की गई है और इसे अद्यतन कर दिया गया है। इस सूची को सभी राज्य औषधि नियंत्रकों तथा औषधि निर्माताओं और विक्रेताओं की मुद्दे एसोशियेशनों को भी परिपत्रित कर दिया गया है।

2. जब भी केन्द्रीय औषधि मानक नियंत्रक संगठन में नकली दवाइयों के बारे में रिपोर्ट प्राप्त होती है और यह घोटाला अन्तर्राज्य किस्म का जान पड़ता है तो संबंधित राज्यों को तुरन्त सचेत कर दिया जाता है और उन्हें सलाह दी जाती है कि वे नकली दवाइयों के निर्माण और वितरण के स्रोत का पता लगाने के लिए जांच पड़ताल करें।

3. राज्य औषधि नियंत्रण प्राधिकारियों को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे नकली दवाइयों के प्रति यह अभियान चलावे के लिए पुलिस अधिकारियों के साथ निकट सम्पर्क स्थापित करें।

4. राज्यों को कारगर ढंग से कार्यवाही करने के लिए औषधि नियंत्रण संगठन की प्रशिक्षणों के बारते के बारे में भी सलाह दी गई है जिनमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ इसमें नकली औषधियों की समस्या से निपटने के लिए विधिक मंजूना एकांश स्थापित करने की आवश्यकता शामिल है। राज्यों से यह भी अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे अपने संगठनों में सुधार करें।

5. राज्यों ने अपने औषधि निरीक्षकों से कहा है कि वे नकली दवाइयों के त्रय-वित्रय के बारे में सतर्क रहें तथा थोड़े-थोड़े समय बाद नमूने लेते रहें।

6. केन्द्रीय सरकार की केन्द्रीय औषधि प्रयोगशाला, कलकत्ता, केन्द्रीय भारतीय मेधज संहिता प्रयोगशाला, गाजियाबाद और केन्द्रीय अनुसंधान संस्थान में उपलब्ध जांच सुविधाएं राज्यों को सौंप दी गई हैं और इस समय 21 राज्य और संघ शामिल क्षेत्र इन सुविधाओं का लाभ उठा रहे हैं। इन सुविधाओं में और अधिक वृद्धि की जा रही है ताकि बड़ी संख्या में नमूनों की जांच की जा सके।

7. एक केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना के अन्तर्गत राज्यों को अपनी जांच सुविधाओं में वृद्धि करने के लिए वित्तीय सहायता दी जा रही है। इस योजना के अन्तर्गत 8 राज्यों को मिनो-जलो खाद्य और औषधि प्रयोगशालाएं खोलने के लिए सहायता दी जा रही है और 3 राज्यों को खाद्य प्रषवा औषधि, जैसा भी मामला हो, की जांच करने के लिए विंग स्थापित करने के लिए सहायता दी जा रही है। 12 राज्यों को आधुनिकमम जांच उपकरण की खरीद के लिए सहायता दी जा रही है।

8. केन्द्र और राज्य संगठनों के बीच निकट सम्पर्क बनाये रखने के लिए तथा सारे देश में इस अधिनियम को एकरूपता से लागू करने के लिए केन्द्रीय औषधि मानक नियंत्रण संगठन के जोनल कार्यालय बम्बई, कलकत्ता, मद्रास और गाजियाबाद में खोले गए हैं। इन जोनल कार्यालयों के साथ औषधि निरीक्षक भी सम्बद्ध हैं और ये निरीक्षक यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि औषधियां औषधि अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत निर्धारित मानकों के अनुसार ही तैयार की जा रही हैं, राज्य प्राधिकारियों के साथ मिल कर औषधि निर्माताओं के ग्रहणों में संयुक्त निरीक्षण करते हैं।

9. औषधि निरीक्षकों के लिए केन्द्रीय औषधि नियंत्रण संगठन नियमित रूप से प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन करता है। यह एक अनवरत कार्यक्रम है और राज्य सरकारें इस सुविधा का लाभ उठा रही हैं।

ईरान में भारतीय सिख की मृत्यु

617. श्री श्रीज जी० हुडे : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ईरान की सेना द्वारा चलाई गई गोलबारी में सितम्बर, 1978 में एक भारतीय सिख मारा गया था;

(ख) क्या यह व्यक्तिगत तीन वर्षों से ईरान में रह रहा था और वहां पर इलेक्ट्रिशियन के रूप में कार्य कर रहा था;

(ग) क्या भारत सरकार ने उसकी मौत के बाद उसके परिवार को कोई सहायता दी है;

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्योरा क्या है; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार उस देश को निदेश देगी कि वह इस दुःखी परिवार को कुछ सहायता दे?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री समरेन्द्र कुम्हू) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) जी हां।

(ग) से (ङ). श्री इन्दरजीत सिंह को इसलिये मारा गया कि वे ईरान के माशेल ला प्राधिकारियों द्वारा घोषित कर्फ्यू आर्डर का उल्लंघन करके सड़क पर जा रहे थे। गश्त लगाने वाले सैनिकों ने जब उन्हें टोका तो वे भागने लगे जिसके परिणामस्वरूप यह दुर्घटना हुई। वे एक अवैध आप्रवासी थे और बिना तीन वर्षों से ईरान में काम कर रहे थे। भारतीय राजदूतावास ने उनके शरीर की अन्वेषण क्रिया में सहायता की और उनके भाई को जो कि स्वयं भी अवैध आप्रवासी थे, उस देश से बिना उनके खिलाफ कोई कार्रवाई बगैरहू किये जाने देने में, सहायता की; लेकिन नियमों के अधीन उन्हें कोई वित्तीय सहायता देना संभव नहीं था। इस मृत्यु की परिस्थितियों को देखते हुए और इस तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि श्री सिंह एक अवैध आप्रवासी थे, ईरान की सरकार से मुभावजा अंगरेजी की कोई बात नहीं की गई।

Invitation to Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan for Medical treatment

619. SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI YUVRAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been urged to invite Khan Abdul Ghaffar

Khan to India for medical treatment; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During Foreign Minister's official visit to Kabul September this year, he had mentioned to the Afghan authorities that Government of India is willing to send a doctor for Badshah Khan and if he desires to come to India for treatment, the Government and the people of India would welcome him. India is ready to provide the best possible advice and facilities available with us in this regard. Our offer has also been conveyed to Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan personally.

Pension Paid to Members of Parliament

621. SHRI AJIT SINGH DABHI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Members of Parliament who have completed full term of five years are being given any pension;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Government has taken decision to bring a Bill to amend the Members of Parliament Salary and Allowances Act so as to give pension also to those Members of Parliament who have missed to complete the term of five years only by 15 days; and

(c) if so, when that Bill will be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The question regarding amendments to the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of

Parliament Act, 1954 in regard to pension of ex-Members of Parliament is under consideration of the Government. This question has been listed as an item for discussion with the Leaders of Opposition parties/groups in Parliament and a decision will be taken when the discussions conclude.

Cost of Sterilisation

622. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lack of political will in carrying forward population control under the Family Welfare Programme has pushed up the cost of sterilisation;

(b) if so, the details regarding the cost per patient at present and what was the cost of sterilisation per patient two years before; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the target is to bring down the birth rate from over 33 per 1,000 now to 30 by 1983, and there is actually a sharp drop in coverage of couples in the reproductive age group under all forms of Family Planning Programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The Joint Conference of Central Council of Health and the Central Family Welfare Council in its meeting held in October, 1978 discussed the totality of the Family Welfare Programme and noted with regret the inadequate performance in respect of levels of achievements stipulated for various States/Union Territories. In this context the question of mobilising political will to carry forward the programme was also discussed.

(b) It is difficult to work out direct costs per sterilisation as the staff engaged at various levels is responsible not only for sterilisation but also for

other Family Planning methods as well as welfare activities such as a mother and child health, immunisation programme and taking ante and post-natal care of the mothers. In earlier years the expenditure per equivalent sterilisations used to be worked out mainly on the number of sterilisation preformed. According to those figures the average expenditure per equivalent sterilisation in 1975-76 was Rs. 262.69. During the period 1976-77 this cost came down to Rs. 199.68 as there were a very large number of sterilisations. The programme was given a welfare orientation after the Janata Party came into power. The programme as envisaged at present lays greater emphasis on MCH, immunisation and welfare activities for children and expectant mothers. As such it is not possible to calculate the exact cost per sterilisation in view of the new approach.

(c) Yes Sir.

Demand from CITU for Correction in Consumer Price Index

623. SHRI BHAGAT RAM : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.I.T.U. and other trade unions demanded correction of mistakes made in compiling the Consumer Price Index in the past depriving the workers of crores of rupees which were their due; and

(b) what steps are taken or being taken to correct the mistakes in the Consumer Price Index?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) : (a) and (b). There was general demand from various quarters including Trade Unions that before the new series of the Consumer Price Index Numbers (base 1971=100) are introduced, the current series (base 1960=100) should be reviewed in all their aspects and the deficiencies in the series, if any, rectified. In pursuance of this demand, Government of India constituted a Committee last year to go into

the various aspects of Consumer Price Index Numbers and make recommendations. The report of the Committee has been received and is under examination in consultation with the State and Union Territory Governments.

Deendayal Upadhyaya Hospital, Harinagar

624. SHRI RAM BILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Deendayal Upadhyaya Hospital, Harinagar is the only major hospital for the entire West Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of beds available there;

(c) whether the emergency service available there has been withdrawn and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to abolish this service;

(e) the extent to which the proposed extension of the above hospital has been done and the progress made in this regard; and

(f) the time by which the extension programme thereof is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). The Deendayal Upadhyaya Hospital, located in West Delhi, is a general hospital under the control of Delhi Administration, with 54 beds. Besides, there is an ESI Hospital with 300 beds.

(c) and (d). No emergency service has been provided in the hospital and as such the question of its withdrawal does not arise.

(e) and (f). Administrative approval and Expenditure sanction to upgrade the hospital as a 500 bedded, major hospital have been issued and the Delhi Administration have commenced the development work. The project is scheduled for completion within the VI Plan period.

Grant of Out Of Turn Telephone Connections in Madras City

625. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Manager, Telephones has discretionary powers for sanctioning telephone connections to a special group of persons;

(b) the circumstances under which such special powers are exercised; and

(c) the number and names of persons in Madras City who got connections under the discretionary powers of the General Manager during the last 12 months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHEDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) General Manager may allot telephone piecemeal on merits at their discretion in the categories OYT-Government, Non-OYT-SS, OYT-FE, OYT-S and OYT-G where telephone is required in public interest on the recommendations of the Central or State Governments.

(c) Such statistical information has not been maintained.

Discussions held with Foreign Minister of Netherlands

626. SHRI D. AMAT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Foreign Minister of Netherlands visited India in October, 1978 and had discussions with Indian officials; and

(b) if so, the nature of discussion held and what are the results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Dutch Foreign Minister, Dr. C. A. van der Klaauw, visited India from the 11th to the 13th October, 1978 and had dis-

cussions with the Minister for External Affairs Minister of State for External Affairs and officials.

(b) There are no problems between India and the Netherlands. The two delegations discussed bilateral relations and international affairs. Apart from discussions relating to major international problems, including disarmament, detente and North-South problems, the Foreign Minister of India explained India's policy of non-alignment and our efforts to improve relations with our neighbours and establish a climate of confidence and cooperation with them. The Netherlands is technologically highly advanced country and an influential member of the EEC. In discussions the danger of adoption of protectionists policies by the advanced countries to developing countries like India was pointed out. The Netherlands which is a major trading country as well as one of the most liberal aid-giving nations, appreciated this aspect.

News Item "Mighty Mess in Manganese Ore"

627. SHRI VASANT SATHE:
SHRI MAHI LAL:
SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the news weekly 'Elitz', dated the 30th September, 1978 under the caption "Mighty Mess in Manganese Ore";

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the reported violation of rules, nepotism and financial irregularities listed therein; and

(c) the details of action taken/proposed on the report and similar other complaints regarding functioning of MOIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND

MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The allegations made in the news reports have been looked into and found to be mostly baseless.

(c) Does not arise.

Vaccine from Japan for Anti-Encephalitis

**628. SHRI SARAT KAR:
SHRI GANGA BHAKT
SINGH:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that substantial quantities of anti-encephalitis vaccine have been air-lifted from Japan during the third week of October, 1978 to the Eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): A quantity of 68,000 doses of Japanese Encephalitis vaccine as available ex-stock has been air-lifted during the second week of November, 1978 and is being supplied to the various States for use in the affected areas in accordance with a technical protocol drawn by the experts, for this purpose.

Opening of Post Office at Village Kareri, H. P.

629. SHRI BALAK RAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 825/20 have been received by Government vide AGGR Book No. 974 receipt No. 11 dated 28th February, 1978 from the residents of village Kareri, Tehsil Rampur Bushahr, Distt. Simla, Himachal Pradesh with the Post Office Nogli as security for the opening of the Post Office in that village;

(b) whether the residents of the above said village were assured the

opening of the Post Office on 1st March, 1978; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay and by what time the Post Office will be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The opening of post office is not justified in accordance with the revised norms as detailed in Statement.

Statement

New norms for opening of post offices in rural areas:

Post Offices to be opened in rural areas have now been classified into two main categories:—

(1) Post Offices in normal rural areas; and

(2) Post Offices in hilly, tribal or backward areas.

(1) Post Offices in normal rural areas;

(i) Post Offices in gram-panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions:—

(a) There is no other post office within the radius of 3 Kms. from the proposed post office; and

(b) The proposed post office is expected to yield income to the extent of atleast 25 per cent of its estimated cost.

(ii) Post Offices in non-Gram-Panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions:—

(a) The population of the village should be 2,000 or more;

(b) There is no other post office within the radius of 3 Kms. from the proposed office; and

(c) The post office is expected to yield income to the extent of at least 25 per cent of its estimated cost.

(2) Post offices in hilly, tribal and backward areas:

(i) Post offices in Gram-Panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions:—

(a) There is no other post office within the radius of 3 Kms. from the proposed post office; and

(b) The proposed post office is extent of at least 10 per cent of its extent of at least 10 per cent of its estimated, cost.

(ii) Post offices in non-gram-Panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions:—

(a) The village should have a population of 1,000 or more;

(b) There should not be another post office within the radius of 3 Kms. from the proposed post office; and

(c) The proposed post office is expected to yield income to the extent of at least 10 per cent of its estimated cost.

3. Notwithstanding the above, the Postmasters General are hereby empowered to relax (in consultation with the Internal Financial Adviser) any of the above cited norms in 10 per cent of the cases in opening of post offices every year.

4. The minimum guaranteed revenue income will continue to be calculated according to the existing formula.

5. These new norms are operative from the date of issue (i.e. August, 1978).

Repeal the Provision of Pension to Ex-M.Ps.

630. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward the necessary legisla-tion (in the Winter Session of Parliament, 1978) to repeal the pro- vision of pension to former Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, when and with what specific stipulation;

(c) if not, why not;

(d) whether the Prime Minister has expressed himself against the provi- sion of pension to former M.Ps; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not res- ponding to the Prime Minister's de- clared view in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (e) The question regarding amend- ments to the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 in regard to pension to for- mer members of Parliament is under consideration of the Government. The Prime Minister has expressed an opi- nion but also indicated that this sub- ject should be listed as an item for dis- cussion between the Prime Minister and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties/Groups in Parliament. A deci- sion will be taken when the discus- sions conclude.

Formation of Haj Committee

631. SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Will the Minister of EX- TERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the basis and criteria for the formation of the Haj Committee;

(b) the weightage given to the State where Muslims are in majority; and

(c) how many States in the coun- try were left out of the Committee in 1977-78?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA

KUNDU): (a) and (b) The composition of the Haj Committee has been laid down in the Haj Committee Act, 1959, which does not provide for any weightage to any particular State with Muslim majority or otherwise.

(c) The Committee was last constituted in November, 1977. 5 members nominated by (i) the Hon'ble Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, (ii) the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha, and (iii) the Government, under the Act, happen to come from Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. They were not nominated as representing their States but the Muslim community of India.

Bare Foot Doctors

632. SHRI ANITHU SAHOO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the number of "Bare foot-Doctors" appointed in each State and the criteria for the appointment and the proposal to cover the whole area of the country during which time and the amount of recurring expenditure year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): The reference is perhaps to the Community Health Workers trained under Community Health Workers Programme which has been introduced in the selected Primary Health Centres in the country with effect from the 2nd October, 1977. The number of such workers trained in the States implementing this Scheme is given in the Statement. The criteria for selecting a Community Health Worker are one should be VIth pass, 30 years of age and above, social service-minded and acceptable to the community. Presently the scheme is being implemented in 741 Primary Health Centres in the country. It has been extended to another 961 Primary Health Centres from October 1978. The number of Primary Health Centres under this scheme would further go up with the

State of Karnataka implementing it in 101 Primary Health Centres. It is proposed to cover the entire country under this scheme by 1981-82.

The States of Jammu and Kashmir and Tamil Nadu are implementing alternative schemes, namely Rehbar-i-Sehat and Mobile Medical Team schemes respectively. The Government of Kerala have also proposed an alternative scheme which is under consideration.

The yearwise estimated expenditure on the implementation of the C.H.W. is as under:—

1977-78	Rs. 2,06,80,000
1978-79	Rs. 17,82,09,500

Statement

Name of State	Total No. of CHW trained
1. Andhra Pradesh	5748
2. Assam	766
3. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	80
4. Bihar	1677
5. Chandigarh	23
6. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	106
7. Delhi	140
8. Goa, Daman & Diu	99
9. Gujarat	7615
10. Haryana	1995
11. Himachal Pradesh	697
12. Madhya Pradesh	3196
13. Maharashtra	5492
14. Manipur	266
15. Meghalaya	219
16. Mizoram	180
17. Nagaland	109
18. Orissa	788
19. Pondicherry	199
20. Punjab	1850
21. Rajasthan	2078
22. Sikkim	139
23. Tripura	60
24. Uttar Pradesh	16730
25. West Bengal	587
Total	50839

Deaths of Women in Delhi Hospitals

633. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 200 women in different hospitals in Delhi have died in one month as a result of serious complications developed after undergoing operation for the termination of pregnancy;

(b) if so, the hospital-wise details of such deaths after abortions;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into this unprecedented death incidents;

(d) if so, the details and findings thereof; and

(e) the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) No.

(b) to (e). Question does not arise.

Low Stock of Coking Coal

634. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the steel industry had been operating at significantly low stocks this year as compared to earlier years and the lowest figure had been reached in September, 1978;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to this deteriorating situation, with practically no indication of any improving trend, a deliberate decision had been taken to reduce the oven pushing to ensure the safety of the coke ovens which were the most sensitive of the steel plants units; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard?

3051 LS—3.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) Close and constant liaison is being maintained with the Ministry of Energy, coal producers and the Railways so as to secure maximum supplies of good quality coking coal. The matter has also been taken up and reviewed at the Ministerial level. In order to supplement indigenous supplies, orders have also been placed for the import of one million tonnes of low-ash coking coal and the supplies are expected to commence by December, 1978.

टेलीफोन बिलों को किस्तों में भ्रदायगी

635. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली टेलीफोन बिल समय पर नहीं मिल रहे हैं;

(ख) उनके जारी करने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं और कितने समय तथा उक्त बिल उपभोक्ताओं को समय पर मिलने शुरू हो जायेंगे;

(ग) यदि किसी सामान्य व्यक्ति को बिलों की भ्रदायगी एक साथ करने में कठिनाई हो तो क्या सरकार से उक्त भ्रदायगी आसान किस्तों में करने की अनुमति देगी ; और

(घ) विभाग की ओर से विलम्ब होने की सूरत में सरकार उपभोक्ताओं को भ्रदायगी करने में क्या सुविधाएँ प्रदान करेगी ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुखदेव साय) : (क) से (ख) : अक्तूबर 1978 से पहले कम्प्यूटर समय के पर्याप्त उपलब्ध न होने के कारण बिल जारी करने में कुछ विलम्ब हुआ था । 1-10-78 से बिल अपेक्षित तारीखों पर जारी किए जा रहे हैं ।

(ग) जी नहीं ।

(घ) चूंकि 1-10-78 से बिल निर्धारित अपेक्षित तारीखों पर जारी किए जा रहे हैं और उनकी भ्रदायगी जारी करने के 45 दिन के भीतर की जाती है, इस बारे में कोई सुविधा देने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Confirmation of Telephone Inspectors in Delhi Circle

636. SHRI BEGA RAM CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telephone Inspectors in Delhi Circle who have put in 5 years of service on 31st October, 1978 have not been declared permanent or quasi-permanent against their posts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For want of completion of certain formalities.

(c) Matter is being expedited.

शाहदरा में अस्पताल का निर्माण

637. श्री राजेन्द्र कुमार शर्मा : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने शाहदरा, दिल्ली में 500 भवनों वाले एक अस्पताल के निर्माण के प्रस्ताव की स्वीकृति दे दी है;

(ख) उसका निर्माण कार्य कब प्रारम्भ होगा तथा उसमें कुल कितना व्यय प्रायेण, और

(ग) शाहदरा (दिल्ली) में ही इस अस्पताल की स्थापना की स्वीकृति देने के क्या कारण हैं?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद बाबू) : (क) और (ख) शाहदरा (दिल्ली) में 500 पलंगों वाले एक अस्पताल का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव जो कि मेडिकल कालेज अस्पताल की स्थापना करने से सम्बन्धित परियोजना का एक भाग है, अक्टूबर, 1978 में मंजूर कर दिया गया था। इस सारी परियोजना के निर्माण की अनुमानित लागत 11.82 करोड़ रुपये है। इसके प्रतिरक्त उपकरणों पर 2.25 करोड़ की अनुमानित राशि खर्च होगी और कर्मचारियों पर प्रतिवर्ष प्रावर्ती खर्च के रूप में 1.12 करोड़ रुपये भी खर्च होंगे। व्यय की स्वीकृति मिलते ही बालू विस्तीय वर्ष के दौरान निर्माण कार्य शुरू कर दिए जाने की संभावना है; और

(ग) मेडिकल कालेज के साथ किसी अस्पताल का सम्बद्ध होना एक अनिवार्यता होती है अतः शाहदरा का यह अस्पताल इस मेडिकल कालेज के लिए आधार (बेस) का काम करेगा। इस समय दिल्ली में यमुना पार के लोगों को निकटतम अस्पताल में पहुँचने के लिए बहुत चलना पड़ता है, क्योंकि इस अत्यधिक घनी आबादी वाले क्षेत्र में अस्पताली सेवाएँ इतनी काफी नहीं हैं कि वे इस मारे क्षेत्र की जरूरतों को पूरा कर सकें। शाहदरा में एक अस्पताल के खुल जाने से शाहदरा के इंद गिर्द की बतियों में रहने वाले लोगों द्वारा बहुत दिनों से महसूस की जा रही स्वास्थ्य सम्बन्धी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति हो जाने की आशा है।

Watching Annual NATO Exercise by Indian Military Attache

638. SHRI SAUGATHA ROY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a photograph published in several international newspapers showing the Indian Military Attache with the Chinese Deputy Military Attache watching the annual autumn exercise of NATO near Bonn where he is posted;

(b) if so, whether the Attache attended the exercises with the Ministry's permission; and

(c) whether this denotes any basic change in the country's foreign policy stances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) when invited, it is one of the routine duties of the Military Attache to attend the military exercises held in the country of accreditation. He goes as a spectator and does not take any part in exercises. For this, no specific permission is required from the External Affairs Ministry. A number of NATO exercises are held every year in West Germany. Military Attaches posted in Bonn are invited to attend one of these exercises in which a major field formation of the Federal Republic of Germany takes part. As usual, a series of annual

NATO exercises were conducted during September 1978 and Military Attaches were invited to witness the exercises being run between the 19th to the 22nd September. There is no significance to the Indian Military Attache being next to the Chinese Deputy Military Attache as there is no standing or seating order for observers of these exercises. As the photograph bears out, Military Attaches of different countries accredited to the country attend military exercises whether or not they belong to military alliances of which the country is a member.

(c) No, Sir.

Steel Plant in Karnataka

639. SHRI A. R. BADRINARAYAN:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRA
SHEKHARA MURTHY:

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL
NAIDU:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Steel Ministry has recommended to Government for setting up an early steel plant in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether this is to improve the steel production in the country;

(c) when the same is likely to start; and

(d) the reasons for delay in setting up the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA):

(a) to (d). As a part of the overall development programme for enhancement of the capacity in the steel industry, the feasibility of setting up port-based export-oriented plants is under consideration of the Government. Schedule for establishing such plants, their product-mix, capacity etc. is dependent upon a large number of factors including the availability of financial resources.

Repatriation of Indians' from Iran

640. SHRI RAM SEWAK HAZARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Iran have started repatriating Indians who have gone there illegally;

(b) if so, the number of persons repatriated so far and the action taken for their settlement; and

(c) the action being taken for preventing the people going to Iran illegally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Upto November 18, 1978 a total of 1227 illegal immigrants to Iran were repatriated to India. They were illegal immigrants to Iran and on return to India, their own country, the question of resettlement does not arise. Sworn statement from all repatriates have been taken by our Missions in Iran in which they are required to explain the circumstances of their illegal journey to Iran including names of agents and others who have cheated them. These on receipt in the Ministry of External Affairs are being sent to the concerned police authorities for necessary action.

बेरोजगारों को रोजगार

641. श्री हरगोविन्द बर्मा :।

श्री एडम्सार्ड कैलीरो :

क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क)गत बीस महीनों में कितने बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों के लिए नौकरियों की व्यवस्था की गई;

(ख) क्या इस तथ्य के बावजूद कि बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों के लिए नौकरियों की व्यवस्था की गई है रोजगार कार्यालयों में रजिस्टर किए गए बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों की संख्या कम करने के लिए सरकार क्या योजना तैयार कर रही है ?

संशोधन कार्य तथा भव भंडी (श्री रवीन्द्र वर्मा) : (क) जनवरी, 1977 से अगस्त, 1978 तक के 20 महीनों के दौरान रोजगार कार्यालयों के माध्यम से 774.4 हजार व्यक्तियों को रोजगार पर लगाया गया।

(ख) दिसम्बर, 1976 और अगस्त, 1978 के अन्त में रोजगार कार्यालयों के चालू रजिस्टर के अनुसार रोजगार चाहने वालों की संख्या (यह आवश्यक नहीं है कि उन में से सभी बेरोजगार हों) क्रमशः 9784.3 और 12148.6 हजार थी।

(ग) चूंकि नीति यह है कि रोजगार प्रधान क्षेत्रीय योजना अपनाई जाए, रोजगार में वृद्धि करने के लिए प्रौद्योगिकीय परिवर्तन का उपयोग किया जाए तथा उसे वित्तियमित किया जाय तथा पूर्ण रोजगार के लिए क्षेत्रीय योजना बन्नी को बढ़ावा दिया जाए, इसलिए 1978-1983 योजना में रोजगार सृजन करने पर और अधिक बल दिया गया है।

Enforcement of Minimum Wages fixed for Agricultural Workers

642. SHRI S. G. MURUGAIYAN:
SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the minimum wages rates statutorily fixed for the agricultural workers in different States are not enforced properly; and

(b) if so, whether Government have a proposal under consideration to set up a separate enforcement machinery for the implementation of minimum wages for agricultural workers in various States?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b). Under the Minimum Wages Act the responsibility for enforcement of minimum wages for agricultural workers devolves on the State Governments.

Though there is no proposal to have a separate enforcement machinery the State Governments have been advised from time to time to take effective steps for the enforcement of the notified minimum wages. Some of the

measures taken include strengthening the administrative set-up, utilising the services of staff of Departments like Revenue, Agriculture, Rural Development, in addition to those of Labour Departments, increasing the number of claims authorities and giving wide publicity to the notified minimum wages.

लखनौर गांव में शाखा डाकघर खोला जाना.

643. श्री एच. एल. वी. सिन्हा : क्या संसार मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार के पटना जिला मसौदी प्रखण्ड के गांव बेदौली में एक शाखा डाकघर खोला गया है ?

(ख) क्या गांव लखनौर की जनसंख्या गांव बेदौली से अधिक है लेकिन फिर भी गांव लखनौर को बजाए बेदौली गांव में डाकघर खोला गया है ? और

(ग) लखनौर में डाकघर न खोलने के क्या कारण हैं ?

संसार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुखदेव साय) :

(क) जी हां।

(ख) लखनौर गांव की आबादी बेदौली गांव की आबादी से ज्यादा नहीं है।

(ग) बेदौली की आबादी लखनौर खाम की आबादी से ज्यादा है। इसलिए बेदौली में डाकघर खोला गया था।

Appointment of Presiding Officer in Industrial Tribunal and Labour Court, Orissa

644. SHRI GOVINDA MUNDA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has declared any person in the State of Orissa to act as the Presiding Officer in Industrial Tribunal and Labour Court;

(b) if so, where the Presiding Officers are functioning; and

(c) if not, why the same has not been done?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR

(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b). In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 7A and clause (d) of Sub-section (1) of Section 10 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Central Government has constituted a Central Industrial Tribunal at Bhubaneswar and has notified Shri M. V. Gangaraju, Presiding Officer of the State Industrial Tribunal, Bhubaneswar as the Presiding Officer also of the Central Tribunal.

The Central Government has also constituted the Labour Court, Bhubaneswar as a Central Labour Court for adjudication of industrial disputes relating to the matters specified in the Second Schedule of the I.D. Act, 1947. This court has also been specified as Central Labour Court for the purposes of Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946. Shri Jugal Kishore Mahapatra, Presiding Officer, State Labour Court, Bhubaneswar has been notified as Presiding Officer of this Central Labour Court.

(c) Does not arise.

Number of Regional Passport Offices

645. SHRI ANANT DAVE:

SHRI GANGA BHAKT
SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Passport Offices opened so far in the country and the area to be covered by each regional office for issue of passport;

(b) whether Government propose to open such regional offices in each state

to remove the difficulties experienced by the applicants; and

(c) whether Government also propose to reduce the passport fee from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 25/-?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) There are at present 13 Passport Offices, including four offices opened in 1978. The jurisdiction of these offices is given in the statement placed on the Table of the House.

(b) It is the Government's policy to open passport offices in each State to the extent possible. New Passport Offices are proposed to be opened before the end of the current financial year in Bhubaneswar (Orissa); Patna (Bihar); Gauhati (Assam); Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir); and Jullundur or Ludhiana (in the Punjab). It has also been decided to open an office in Himachal Pradesh in the early part of the next financial year.

With the opening/scheduled opening of new offices, it has been decided to designate them uniformly as Passport Office instead of as Regional or Sub-Regional Offices. This decision is being implemented progressively.

(c) The passport fee of Rs. 50/- has been levied from 9th March 1978, the date of introduction of the Passport (Amendment) Bill, 1978 which has been passed by Parliament. There is no proposal to alter the fee.

Statement

Jurisdiction of Passport Offices in India

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Regional Passport Ahmedabad Office, | . The State of Gujarat & the Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli. |
| 2. Regional Passport Bangalore Office, | . The State of Karnataka (opened on 12-6-1978). |
| 3. Passport Office, Bhopal | . The State of Madhya Pradesh (opened on 17-10-1978). |
| 4. Regional Passport Bombay Office, | . The State of Maharashtra. |

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5. Regional Passport Calcutta Office</p> <p>6. Regional Passport Chandigarh Office,</p> <p>7. Regional Passport New Delhi Office</p> <p>8. Regional Passport Ernakulam Office,</p> <p>9. Regional Passport Hyderabad Office,</p> <p>10. Regional Passport Jaipur Office</p> <p>11. Sub-Regional Kozhikode Passport Office,</p> <p>12. Regional Passport Lucknow Office</p> <p>13. Regional Passport Madras Office,</p> | <p>. The States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur and Sikkim and the Union Territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.</p> <p>. The Union Territory of Chandigarh and the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana.</p> <p>. The Union Territory of Delhi and the State of Jammu and Kashmir.</p> <p>. The State of Kerala and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.</p> <p>. The State of Andhra Pradesh.</p> <p>. The State of Rajasthan (opened on 22-9-1978).</p> <p>. The Districts of Cannanore, Kozhikode, Malapuram and Palghat in the State of Kerala (opened on 17-6-1978).</p> <p>. The State of Uttar Pradesh.</p> <p>. The State of Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Pondicherry.</p> |
|---|---|

Bonus to P & T Employees

646. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) whether the proposal for payment of bonus to the employees of P. & T. is pending consideration of Government since long;

(b) if so, at what level of consideration it stands and the decision taken in this regard; and

(c) how soon the decision is expected?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (c). Proposals for amending the Payment of Bonus Act in several aspects, including extension of the Act to new areas, have been received by Government. It is the intention of Government to study these proposals closely and to have consultations with the interests concerned before introducing changes in the Act.

Loss on Account of Floods

647. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss suffered by the Ministry during the month of August-September, 1978 due to disruption of lines of communications on account of floods; and

(b) what steps have been taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHEDEO SAI): (a) and (b). Disruption to lines of communication was caused on account of floods in the months of August-September, 1978 in West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

Immediately after the floods subsided, the effort was concentrated on the restoration of the disrupted lines of communication in a phased manner. First essential services like Govt. Secretariat, Police, Hospitals, Army

and others involved in restoration of normalcy were restored. In the telecommunication circles, the material required for restoration work were made available on priority and lines of communication were restored temporarily. Controls rooms were set in the Division and Circle Headquarters for monitoring the progress of restoration of the interrupted telephones. Permanent restoration is continuing. While work for restoration has started in all places, detailed estimates of the actual losses, however, will take some time to compile. Preliminary estimates of losses for West Bengal, Bihar and Calcutta telephone districts which suffered the maximum are of the order of 50 lakhs which, however, does not include the revenue losses.

Opening of a Office for Telephone Exchange at Berhampore, West Bengal

* 648. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that in the matter of telephone exchange it was contemplated that a Divisional Office would be installed at Berhampore town within Murshidabad District of West Bengal;

(b) whether a new idea of shifting the said office to another District has been or is being entertained; and

(c) if so, why?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) There was no contemplation to open a Divisional Office at Berhampore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise, please.

Inspection of Coal and Non-coal Mines by DGMS

649. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-

TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the number of inspections in coal and non-coal mines by Director General of Mines and Safety has been gradually declining;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of inspections made into mining, electrical, mechanical and industrial hygiene in various coal and non-coal mines during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) what are the violations detected during the inspections during the same period; and

(e) what steps Government have taken against them and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (e). The details of inspections made during the last three years are as under:—

CADRE	1975	1976	1977
Mining	9366	7517	6779
Electrical	1620	1270	1509
Mechanical	221	316	299
Industrial Hygiene	543	527	461
Safety Week inspections by officers of all cadres	646	480	564
TOTAL	12,396	10,110	9,612

The decrease in number of inspections is due to a shortage of officers mainly created by a number of Officers being deputed in connection with the work of 5 Courts of Enquiries during 1976 and 1977.

Various irregularities noticed during the course of inspections are recorded in the special registers maintained for the purpose in the mines

while serious irregularities are brought to the notice of management for rectification. Steps are also taken, where necessary, to prohibit employment under section 22 of the Mines Act. Necessary penal action is initiated as provided in the law.

यमुना पार क्षेत्र में औषधालय

650. श्री रामजी लाल सुमन : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यमुना-पार क्षेत्र में केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना औषधालय खोलने के बारे में 6 अप्रैल, 1978 के प्रतारकित प्रश्न संख्या 5824 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कोई औषधालय इस बीच वहां पर खोला गया है ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो वहां पर औषधालय कब खोले जायेंगे ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगबन्धो प्रसाद यादव) : (क) और (ख) लक्ष्मी नगर (यमुना-पार) क्षेत्र में एक औषधालय खोलने की आवश्यक मंजूरी हाल ही में जारी की गई है। औषधालय के लिए एक भवन का भी चयन कर लिया गया है। ग्रामा है कि यह औषधालय जल्दी ही चलना शुरू हो जाएगा।

लोहे के मूल्य में वृद्धि की जांच

651. श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माधुर : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने लोहे के मूल्य में वृद्धि की कोई जांच कराई है ; और

(ख) इमारतों के निर्माण और अन्य प्रयोजनों के लिये ग्राम लोगों को उचित दरों पर लोहे का सामान उपलब्ध करने के लिये सरकार ने क्या योजना बनाई है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री-कृष्णामाधुर) (क) : जी नहीं।

(ख) निर्माण कार्यों में काम आने वाला इस्पात जैसे छड़ और गोल छड़ बाजार में आसानी से उपलब्ध है। यह इस्पात या तो मुख्य उत्पादकों के स्टॉकयार्ड या पुनर्बलकों से लिया जा सकता है। 4/5 जून, 1978 से स्टॉकयार्ड का लामान्तर केवल 35 रुपये तक सीमित कर दिया गया है। निर्माण कार्यों के लिए जस्ती सादी/जस्ती नालीदार चादरों की भी आवश्यकता होती है। मांग के बढ़ जाने के कारण इनकी उपलब्धि में कुछ कमी महसूस की जा रही है। जबकि जस्ती सादी/जस्ती नालीदार चादरों के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं, इनका कुछ आयात करने की भी योजना है जिससे कमी पूरी की जा सके। इस्पात की कुछ श्रेणियों के अन्ततः

उपयोग पर पुनः प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया गया है जिससे इनकी सप्लाई वास्तविक उपयोक्ताओं को ही की जाए और इनका दुरुपयोग रोका जा सके।

Abolition of Policy Planning Cell

652. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Policy Planning Cell has been abolished in the Ministry of External Affairs; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Unemployment

653. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of job seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges in each State as on 31st March, 1977 and also according to the latest available data showing the percentage of increase/decrease over 1977 March figures;

(b) whether the number of jobs arranged by the employment exchanges as percentage of the applicants on live registers fall from 11 in 1970 to 4.2 per cent in 1977; and

(c) if so, the details and reasons for the sharp fall in the capacity of employment exchanges to arrange jobs?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Information is furnished in the statement attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The number of placements effected by the employment exchanges during the years 1970 and 1977, was 447.2 and 461.6 thousand and the number of applicants on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges at the end of the years 1970 and 1977 was 4068.6 and 10924.0 thousand respectively.

While the number of placements in both the years was of the same order, the percentage of placements to number of job-seekers on the Live Register had decreased from 11.0 to 4.2 per cent due to sharp increase in

the Live Register, as well as due to a number of jobs having been taken away from the purview of the Employment Exchanges as those are filled up through various Service Commissions and Boards set up by the State (and Central) Governments and institutions such as Posts & Telegraphs, Comptroller & Auditor General establishments, Life Insurance and General Insurance Corporation (majority of vacancies) and Nationalised Banks not making recruitment through the Employment Exchanges.

Statement

Number of job-seekers on the live Register of Employment Exchanges in each State Union Territory as on 31-3-1977 and 31-3-1978 and percentage increase/decrease over March 1977 figures.

(Figures in '000)

State/Union Territories	Number of Job-seekers on Live Register as on		Percentage increase/ decrease in August, 1978 over March, 1977
	31-3-1977	31-3-1978	
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	715.7	904.0	26.3
2. Assam	207.5	281.0	35.4
3. Bihar	1017.5	1305.3	28.3
4. Gujarat	407.7	393.9	-3.4
5. Haryana	244.9	294.0	20.1
6. Himachal Pradesh	89.1	105.4	18.4
7. Jammu & Kashmir	47.0	48.5	3.1
8. Karnataka	487.0	524.9	7.8
9. Kerala	781.0	967.5	23.9
10. Madhya Pradesh	612.8	746.5	21.8
11. Maharashtra	877.6	986.6	12.4
12. Manipur	50.2	68.8	37.0
13. Meghalaya	13.4	10.2	-24.3
14. Nagaland	2.4	3.5	44.3
15. Orissa	353.4	373.0	5.5

1	2	3	4
16. Punjab	319.0	385.9	21.0
17. Rajasthan	268.7	311.8	16.1
18. Sikkim*	..		
19. Tamil Nadu	881.1	1015.6	15.3
20. Tripura	52.0	63.0	19.1
21. Uttar Pradesh	1241.5	1366.3	10.1
22. West Bengal	1235.5	1616.9	30.9
23. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4.1	6.3	55.8
24. Arunachal Pradesh*			
25. Chandigarh	40.2	47.1	17.1
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli*			
27. Delhi	228.1	258.3	13.2
28. Goa	31.4	27.7	—11.9
29. Lakshadweep	2.6	3.0	18.5
30. Mizoram	6.0	7.2	20.8
31. Pondicherry	20.5	26.4	28.7
<hr/>			
All India—TOTAL	10238.7	12148.6	18.7

NOTE : 1. *No Employment Exchange is functioning in these States/ Union Territories.

2. Excludes figures in respect of University Employment Information and Guidance Bureaux except for Delhi and Maharashtra.

3. All the job-seekers registered with Employment Exchanges are not necessarily unemployed

Talks held with U.S.S.R. Re: Rupee Trade

654. SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN:
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the precise outcome of his talks during his last visit to U.S.S.R. regarding Rupee Trade; and

(b) the other features of the agreement arrived at these talks for fostering peace and promoting rapid economic development of our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) and (b). During his visit to the Soviet Union in September 1978 the Minister of External Affairs did not specifically discuss the question of Rupee Trade. However during his meeting with the Soviet leaders—the President, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister as well as the Deputy Prime Minister and Co-Chairman of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission the Foreign Minister did discuss the ways and means of strengthening Indo-Soviet bilateral relations in all their aspects.

Setting up of P.C.Os. and expansion of Exchanges in M.P. and Rajasthan

655. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan where P.C.Os. were set up in 1977-78 and the names and number of places where the capacity of the existing Telephone Exchanges was augmented;

(b) the names of the places in the above mentioned States where P.C.Os. are to be set up in 1978-79 and the names of the places where the capacity of the existing telephone exchanges is to be augmented;

(c) whether there are many telephone exchanges in both the above-mentioned States, which do not have suitable buildings; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARAHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House later on.

Improving Living and Working Conditions of Rural Labour

656. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the measures proposed by Government to improve the living and working conditions of rural labour during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) the total financial allocation propose to be made in the Sixth Plan for this purpose; and

(c) in what way Government propose to involve the rural workers' organisations in the actual implementation of these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PAR-

LIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI): (a) to (c). The Draft Five Year Plan 1978-83 provides for a massive shift of resources in favour of rural areas, with an inbuilt redistributive character in almost every programme and the estimated public sector plan outlay excluding institutional planning on rural development during the Five Year Plan period is envisaged at Rs. 29,925 crores which approximately is twice the outlay of Rs. 14,751 crores provided in the previous Plan.

A variety of measures for increasing the income and improving the living and working conditions of rural labour have been recommended. The coverage and outlay under the revised minimum needs programme have been substantially stepped up. The policies and programmes undertaken to increase employment opportunities together with measures for effective implementation of the Minimum Wages Act are also expected to improve the position of rural labour. A policy of organising the rural poor, and active encouragement to small farmers and rural workers' organisations has been advocated. The Central Standing Committee on Rural Unorganised Labour set up by Government recently would advise Government, *inter alia* on the various administrative and legislative measures to better the socio-economic conditions of the rural unorganised labour and for promoting their organisations. Such organisations are to involve themselves and participate in the implementation of programmes of land reforms and distribution of surplus land; programmes concerning employment generation such as public works, agro-industries, rural craft etc.

Srimavo-Shastri Agreement

657. SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Since the Srimavo-Shastri Agreement of 1964, how many people of Indian origin have been repatriated to India and how many have been

granted Sri Lanka citizenship year-wise; and

(b) how many are yet to be repatriated granted Sri Lanka citizenship and what is the period over which this will be phased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a)

(i) Up to 30-9-1978 2,36,000 accountable persons of Indian origin were repatriated to India from Sri Lanka. This figure excludes 65,504 persons of Indian origin who were also repatriated but were born in Sri Lanka after 29-10-1964. The year-wise figures are given below:

Year	Accountable persons repatriated	Cumulative
1964	14	14
1965	512	526
1966	1910	2436
1967	2648	5,084
1968	2,123	7,207
1969	5,284	12,491
1970	8,733	21,224
1971	21,867	43,091
1972	27,575	70,666
1973	33,175	1,03,841
1974	35,141	1,38,982
1975	18,511	1,57,493
1976	33,321	1,90,814
1977	28,388	2,19,202
1978 (Upto 30th September)	16,798	2,36,000

(ii) Upto 30-9-1978, 1,34,940 accountable persons of Indian origin were granted Sri Lanka citizenship by Sri

Lanka Government under the agreement. This figure does not include 36,217 persons of Indian origin who were born in Sri Lanka after 29-10-1964 and have also been granted Sri Lanka citizenship. The year-wise figures are given below:

Year	Persons granted Sri Lanka citizenship	Cumulative
1964		
1965		
1966		
1967		
1968	161	161
1969	2,930	3,100
1970	7,468	10,568
1971	13,606	24,264
1972	16,107	40,371
1973	18,960	59,331
1974	20,074	79,405
1975	10,591	89,996
1976	19,034	1,09,030
1977	16,220	1,25,250
(Upto 30th Sept., September) 1978	9,690	1,34,940

(b) Under the agreement India was required to repatriate 5,25,000 persons of Indian origin from Sri Lanka out of this 2,89,000 persons of Indian origin will still remain to be repatriated. Sri Lanka Government were to grant citizenship to 3,00,000 accountable persons of Indian origin. Out of this that Government have yet to grant Sri Lanka citizenship to 1,65,060 persons of Indian origin.

Every effort is being made by the two Governments to implement the Agreement as speedily as possible subject to the resources available etc.

Shifting of SAIL Office

658. PANDIT D. N. TIWARI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 170 dated 27th July, 1978 and state:

(a) whether the team of Officers of SAIL sent to Ranchi for assessing the suitability of Raj Bhavan for location of SAIL Offices there, has submitted the report;

(b) whether any decision has been taken to shift SAIL Office from Delhi to Ranchi; and

(c) if so, from what date it will be shifted to Ranchi?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is still under examination with regard to the availability of suitable accommodation and other facilities.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Economic Policy for Africa

659. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out the parameters of a comprehensive foreign economic policy for Africa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Several African countries have only recently gained independence. During their struggle for independence India had consistently lent support to liberation movements. It is the consistent policy of the Government of India to extend full cooperation to these countries in their current struggle for economic emancipation and development. All these countries are members of the Non-aligned Group as

well as of the Group of 77 of Developing Countries. One of the important priorities of the non-aligned movement is economic cooperation among developing countries.

As a fellow-developing country, India has embarked upon a programme of comprehensive technical and economic cooperation with African countries. The main elements of this programme are:

(a) Promotion of mutually beneficial trade;

(b) Technical cooperation including effective and optimal utilisation of Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation Programme consisting of deputation to African countries of our experts, training of African cadres in India, supply of equipment and construction of projects, provision, of consultancy services for drawing up feasibility reports etc.

(c) Joint ventures; and

(d) Grant of commercial credits and Government to Government loans for financing of imports of capital machinery and equipment and projects

Indian Labour Working Abroad

660. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Indian Labour working abroad particularly in (i) Gulf Countries, (ii) U.K., (iii) Europe, (iv) U.S.A. and (v) Canada;

(b) how many of the above are (i) professionals (ii) skilled (iii) semi-skilled, and (iv) unskilled;

(c) what is the total number of Recruiting Firms who have been registered with the Government for booking jobs for Indian Labour abroad;

(d) whether that several complaints have been received against the Indian Recruiting Agents, who mis-represent,

deceive, or play fraud on employment seeking people; and

(e) how many complaints have been received against Indian people employed but not fit for job or for any other reason?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b). The number of Indian workers working abroad and their skill classification is not available.

(c) Till 31st October, 1978, 579 Indian Recruiting Agencies have been duly registered and approved by the Ministry of Labour to deal with the work of recruitment for and on behalf of their foreign principals.

(d) Complaints have been received by Government from time to time regarding recruiting agents charging money from job-seekers, exploitation and mal-treatment of Indian workers, appointments on lower posts than those selected for, unsatisfactory working/living conditions, low salaries etc. in the country of employment. The complaints received are got investigated through appropriate authorities and suitable action is taken on the result of investigation.

(e) Complaints of this nature are generally not received in the Ministry of Labour as they are mainly directed against those responsible for their selection and deployment. However, a few instances have come to the notice of the Government wherein the foreign employers have alleged that workers deputed against their requirements were not up to the mark.

Amendment to EPF Act

661. **SHRI HALIMUDDIN AHMED:** Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an employee who is a member of E.P.F. contributes to his fund and equal the contribution of the member.

the employer also contributes to the fund but when the services of the employee is terminated, the contribution of employee and the employer both are not paid to the member;

(b) whether Government propose to amend the E.P.F. Act that contribution is the earned property of the member and it should be paid to the employee in any case and should not be returned to the employer; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the difficulties that Government will face in doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA): (a) Under the existing provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 an employee who is a member of Employees' Provident Fund is required to contribute to the fund at a certain percentage on his wages and the employer contributes equally. In terms of paragraph 69(2) of the Employees Provident Funds Scheme 1952, an employee at the time of his termination from service shall be paid his own contribution in full in addition to the employer's contribution to the extent indicated below together with interest upto the date of authorisation of payment.

Period of membership	Percentage of employer's contribution payable
1	2
(i) if the period of his membership is less than 3 years	25%
(ii) if the period of membership is 3 years or more but less than 5 years	50%

1	2
5 years or more but less than 10 years	75%
(iv) if the period of membership is 10 years or more but less than 15 years	85%
(v) if the period of membership is 15 years or more	100%

(b) and (c) the forfeiture amount is not returned to the employers but is deposited in the Forfeiture Account of the Fund.

Mini Steel Plants

662. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mini steel plants in the country;

(b) the capacity of each Steel Plant; and

(c) the capacity utilized by each plant at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) At present there are 145 mini steel plants which have been granted licences, including two units holding Letters of Intent. In addition there are 8 units registered with Iron and Steel Control.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and shall be placed before the House after compilation.

विदेश मंत्री की चीन यात्रा

663. श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत में कुछ लोगों ने विदेश मंत्री की चीन यात्रा का विरोध किया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो विरोध करने वाले सब्बों के राजनीतिक दलों की संख्या कितनी है ; और

(ग) उक्त विरोध के बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतरेन्द्र कुन्दू): (क) से (ग). माननीय सदस्य ने प्रश्नकार में देखा होगा कि पिछले कुछ महीनों में विदेश मंत्री की प्रस्तावित चीन यात्रा को लेकर एक स्वस्थ बहस हुई है। विभिन्न राजनीतिक दलों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाले कुछ लोगों ने इस यात्रा के विषय में कुछ शंकाएँ उठायी हैं लेकिन सलाहकार समिति में अभिव्यक्त विचारों के अनुसार बहुमत इसी पक्ष में है कि यह यात्रा की जानी चाहिए। सरकार इस ओर से आश्वस्त है कि संबंधों के सुधार के लिये संभावनाओं की सलाह करने के उद्देश्य से बातचीत करने के निमन्त्रण स्वीकार करने की भारतीय मत का व्यापक समर्थन प्राप्त है।

खजुराहो, मध्य प्रदेश में टेलीफोन केन्द्र और डाकघर के लिये भवन का निर्माण

664. श्री लक्ष्मीनारायण नायक : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या खजुराहो, मध्य प्रदेश के प्रसिद्ध पर्यटक केन्द्र में टेलीफोन केन्द्र और डाकघर के लिये भवनों का निर्माण करने हेतु जमीन निर्धारित की हुई है और यदि हां, तो भवनों का निर्माण न करने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) इन भवनों का निर्माण कब किया जायेगा ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री श्री मरहरि प्रसाद सुखबब साह : (क) खजुराहो में टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज या डाकघर की इमारतें बनाने के लिए भूमि उपलब्ध नहीं है। खजुराहो विकास प्राधिकरण से समुचित भूमि का अधिग्रहण करने के लिए मामला चल रहा है।

(ख) भूमि ले लेने के बाद टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज और डाकघर के लिए विभागीय इमारत बनाने का कार्यक्रम तैयार किया जाएगा।

गैर-कानूनी हड़तालों, रेलियों और प्रदर्शनों पर रोक

665. श्री भर्जुन सिंह भौरिया : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार गैर-कानूनी हड़तालों, रेलियों और प्रदर्शनों पर रोक लगाने का है और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी औसत क्या है ?

संसदीय कार्य तथा मंत्री (श्री रवीन्द्र वर्मा) (क) और (ख) : 30 अगस्त, 1978 को को लोक सभा में पेश किए गए औद्योगिक संबंध विधेयक के अध्याय VIII में गैर कानूनी हड़तालों और रैलियों आदि के सम्बन्ध में सरकार के वैधानिक प्रस्ताव दिए गए हैं।

Dowgrading Importance of Geological Survey of India

666. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a move is afoot to merge Field Technique Research Unit of the Geological Survey of India with Bangalore based Airborne Mineral Survey and Exploration; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Field Technique Research unit and the Research and Development unit of the Airborne Mineral Surveys and Exploration wing were performing similar geo-chemical investigation, and there was considerable overlap in methodology and instrumentation. An X-ray fluorescence unit with computer attachment which is very useful for the Field Technique Research Unit is available only in Bangalore. There are also as many as five atomic absorption spectrophotometers at Bangalore which are the most important instruments for carrying out geochemical studies. At Calcutta the availability of these instruments is less. The G.S.I. Review Committee had also recommended the integration of A.M.S.E. and F.T.R.U. into a mineral exploration set up. Having regard to the above and in order to ensure fullest utilisation of existing laboratory facilities and personnel, it was decided to shift and merge the F.T.R.U. with A.M.S.E.

Persons given free Passage by I.C.C.R. on Air India

667. SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of persons given a mandatory free passage on Air India

by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations during the last three years; and

(b) the class of travel permitted, their destination and stated purpose of travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU) : (a) and (b). The information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2812/78]

Amendment to Payment of Gratuity Act

668. SHRI R. K. MHALGI : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2571 on 3rd August, 1978 regarding amendment to Payment of Gratuity Act and state:

(a) since when the matter relating to the amendment to payment of Gratuity Act suggesting to give benefit of gratuity to employees who are known as 'Administrative Personnel' but get monthly salary below Rs. 1000/- is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether Government have taken a decision on the matter and if so, when and the nature thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA) : (a) to (c). Representations on this subject have been received from time to time. The matter is being considered along with other proposals to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, in consultation with the State Governments.

Payment of Service Charges and Re-instatement Charges to Kalyan Municipality

669. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Nos. 1684 and 1685 on the 27th July, 1978 and state:

(a) whether Government have paid up the amount of service charges of the Central Government properties and the amount due to reinstatement charges of underground telephones in the jurisdiction of Kalyan Municipality (Maharashtra);

(b) if so, the amount paid and when;

(c) if the amount paid is less than the demand made, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if the amount is not paid so far, the reasons therefor and when it shall be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, Kalyan, on verification of the bills for Service Charges and Reinstatement charges of underground telephones has found discrepancies for which he has sought clarifications from the Municipal Authorities which are still awaited. The bills will be paid as soon as the discrepancies are sorted out.

National Health Programme for Eradication of different Diseases

670. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5312 on the 24th August, 1978 and state the result of the National Health Programmes for eradication of a different diseases launched in H.P. by the Central Government during the last one year?

3051 LS—4

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): A statement showing the results under various National Health Programmes is enclosed.

Statement

National malaria Eradication Programme

The incidence of positive cases during 1977 in Himachal Pradesh was 42154. During 1978 upto August the number of positive cases detected is 35234.

National T.B. Control Programme

No new scheme was launched under TB Programme for the State of Himachal Pradesh by the Central Government during the last one year. Under Centrally sponsored sector only two schemes which have been continued during the last one year have been

(i) Supply of anti-TB drugs to TB clinics for the domiciliary treatment of TB patients.

(ii) Supply of BCG vaccine.

During the year 1977-78, anti-TB drugs worth about Rs. 1,89,000 and BCG vaccine worth about 7100 was supplied to the Government of Himachal Pradesh under Centrally sponsored sector.

It may further be added for information that the schemes of establishment of District TB Centres and TB Isolation beds have been included under State Plan Sector during 5th Plan period and during the first year of 6th Plan. So far, out of 12 districts in the State of Himachal Pradesh 8 districts have been provided with District TB Centres to undertake districtwise TB Programme and a total of nearly 679 TB beds are functioning in different TB Institutions of the State.

National Leprosy Control Programme

6 Leprosy Control Units, 7 Survey Education and Treatment Centres, 1 Urban Leprosy Centre, 1 Reconstructive surgery Unit and 1 Temporary Hospitalization Ward are functioning in the State.

From January to August 1977 during the last year of 1977, 238 new cases were detected and brought under treatment and 195 Leprosy cases were disease arrested or cured under the National Leprosy Control Programme.

Out of 15,000 estimated cases of leprosy in Himachal Pradesh 6110 cases have been brought under treatment till August, 1977.

National Small Pox Eradication Programme

The country has remained free from small pox after the last case which occurred on 24th May, 1977. The surveillance for suspected smallpox case has been continuing in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

Expanded Programme on Immunization

A nation-wide Expanded Programme on Immunization, a centrally sponsored scheme has been launched during 6th Five Year Plan by establishing EPI Units in the Directorate General of Health Services, at National level and all State/Union Territories Health Directorates, at State-level for controlling the infectious childhood diseases like diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, typhoid fever and tuberculosis.

National Goitre Control Programme

National Goitre Control Programme has been introduced in the entire State of Himachal Pradesh since 1963-64 apropos controlling endemicity of Goitre in the State. Resurveys conducted earlier in Kangra district in the year 1962 have shown appreciable decrease in the endemicity of Goitre following introduction of iodised salt for the prevention of the disease. No evaluation has been made during the

last one year, therefore the impact of the programme in the State is not possible to be assessed at the present stage.

However, Resurveys to assess the impact of the programme is proposed to be conducted as soon as survey in these endemic areas is completed.

National Programme for Prevention of Visual Impairment and Control of Blindness

One Mobile Unit has been released to the State Government and the number of eye camps organised and the total patients treated by the Mobile Unit is as under :—

No. of eye camps organised	14
Total patients treated	2386
No. of operations performed i.e.,	
Cataract & Glaucoma and others	148
	(Cataract)
	9
	(Glaucoma)

40 P.H.Cs. under the National Programme have been identified by the State Government and material and equipment for strengthening them have been released to the State Governments. These P.H.Cs. will provide comprehensive eye care services at peripheral level. Necessary material and equipment have also been supplied to the District Hospitals identified under the National Programme.

Automatisation of Manual Exchanges in H. P.

671. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for automatisation of manual exchanges in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details District-wise;

(c) whether it is also proposed to cover Palampur under this scheme, and if so, by when it will be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following 2 manual exchanges are planned for automatisa-tion during 1979-80:

1. Bilaspur
2. Dharmasala

The remaining exchanges will be automatised progressively during the subsequent years.

(c) and (d). The supplies of auto-matic exchange equipment are limited. Priority for automatisa-tion is being given for exchanges at State and Dis-trict Headquarters. Palampur not being a District Headquarters, it is proposed to take it up for automa-tization after various District Head-quarters have been covered.

Staff grievances of Medical Store Depot, Madras

672. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FA-MILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that the Director General of Health Services, New Delhi had visited the Medical Store Depot, Madras on 11-2-78 and if so, for what purpose;

(b) is it a fact that the Government Medical Store Depot Workers' Union, Madras, had presented a Memorandum to the Director General of Health Services on the same day at Madras specifying the Staff grievances and if so, how many grievances of the Staff have been redressed; and

(c) if not, why and when the same will be redressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMI-LY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes; for offi-cial purpose.

(b) and (c). Grievances/demands of the staff of the Medical Store Depot Madras are being looked into and every effort is being made to resolve the same most early.

Confirmation of Employees of Govern-ment Medical Stores Depot, Madras

673. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FA-MILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstar-red Question No. 1655, dated the 27th July, 1978 and state whether the infor-mations have been collected and if so, when it will be laid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAG-DAMBI PRASAD YADAV): The required information has since been collected and will be shortly laid on the Table of the Sabha, in fulfilment of the assurance.

इस्पात का आयात

674. श्री युवराज : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में इस्पात की कमी है और इसकी काला बाजार में बिक्री की जा रही है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने उपभोक्ताओं की न्यूनतम आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए 10 लाख टन इस्पात का आयात करने का निर्णय किया है; और

(ग) इस्पात की कमी को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जाने हैं और ये कदम कब उठाये जाने हैं, यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री कडिबा मुण्डा) (क) : इस्पात की कुछ श्रेणियों की जो खुले बाजार में अधिक मूल्य पर मिलती है, कमी है।

(ख) जी, हां। चालू वर्ष में लगभग 11 लाख टन इस्पात का आयात करने की सम्भावना है।

(ग) मांग और उपलब्धि के अन्तर को आयात द्वारा पूरा किया जा रहा है। इसके साथ-साथ देशीय उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए भी उपाय किए जा रहे हैं।

Manual Exchanges in Maharashtra and their Automatisation

675. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Manual Exchanges in Maharashtra and their location;

(b) whether any programme has been drawn up for their phased conversion into Automatic Exchange; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHEDEO SAI): (a) There are a total of 144 manual exchanges in Maharashtra. They are located at the stations indicated in Annexure-I.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to automate all manual exchanges in about 15 years in a phased manner. The supplies of automatic exchange equipment are at present limited. Steps are being taken to augment the indigenous production.

During the 6th Plan period (78-83) about 14 of the existing manual exchanges in Maharashtra will be automated. It is hoped to step up the automatization during next plan period.

Statement

1. Achalpur 2. Ahmednagar 3. Akulj
4. Akola Main 5. Akola Sub 6. Amalner
7. Badsiem 8. Chalgao 9. Chip-lun
10. Dhulia 11. Gondia 12. Hinganghat
13. Khamgaon 14. Latur 15. Malegaon (NSK)
16. Malkapur (BWL)
17. Manmad 18. Palghar 19. Ponghar-pur
20. Parbhani 21. Parali Vajinath
22. Sangamner 23. Sholapur Main
24. Sholapur City 25. Ulhasnagar 26. Wani
27. Curchorum 28. Ponda
29. Ahmedpur 30. Alkot 31. Alibag 32. Ambejogai
33. Anjanagaon 34. Ankalkhog
35. Arni 36. Arvi 37. Besmatnagar
38. Bhoom 39. Brhamapuri; 40. Buldana
41. Chikhli 42. Chinchani
43. Chopda 44. Dapoli 45. Darya-

- pur 46. Degloor; 47. Deogad
48. Desaijanj 49. Deulgaon Raja
50. Dhamangaon 51. Dharambad
52. Digra 53. Dindosi 54. Dondiada
55. Gadhinglaj 56. Gavari 57. Gaod-nedi
58. Gholwad 59. Huigali 60. Lgot-puri
61. Indapur 62. Jalgaon Jamod
63. Jammer 64. Jintur 65. Junner 66. Kallan
67. Kankavli 68. Kannad
69. Karanja (AKL) 70. Karjat (BY)
71. Karjat (ANR) 72. Karmala 73. Katal
74. Khed (PN) 75. Khen (TRG)
76. Kinwat 77. Kudal 78. Lasatgaon
79. Lonand 80. Mahad 81. Malvan
82. Manchar 83. Mangaon 84. Mehkar
85. Morshi 86. Mut 87. Murtizapur
88. Naigaon 89. Nandgaon 90. Nandura
91. Narayangaon 92. Natepute 93. Nawapur
94. Newasa 95. Nilanga
96. Nimbhora 97. Omerga 98. Ozar
99. Pachora 100. Pandharkawada
101. Peu 102. Pimpalgaon 103. Pulgaon
104. Pusad 105. Rahuri 106. Rajapur
107. Ramtek 108. Raver 109. Roha
110. Sailu 111. Salcoli 112. Sakri
113. Sangola 114. Saoner 115. Satana
116. Savda 117. Sawantwadi 118. Shahada
119. Shevgaon 120. Shivpur
121. Shirwal 122. Shriwardhan 123. Sillod
124. Sinnar 125. Talegaon Dabhade
126. Taloda 127. Tasgaon 128. Udgir
129. Umerkhed 130. Umrer
131. Uran 132. Uran Isjampur 133. Vadgaon
134. Vaduj 135. Vajapur
136. Verangaon 137. Vita 138. Wada
139. Wai 141. Varud 142. Washion
143. Yawal 144. Yeola.

देश में बी० एम० एस० कालेज

676. श्री बयाराम शास्त्र: क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में राज्यवार बी० एम० एस० कालेजों की संख्या क्या है और प्रतिवर्ष प्रशिक्षण पूरा करने वाले विद्यार्थियों की संख्या क्या है ; और

(ख) बी० एम० एस० डिग्रीधारियों के लिए स्नातकोत्तर संस्थान वाले स्थानों के नाम क्या हैं और उनकी संख्या क्या है

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनकजी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) होम्योपैथी केन्द्रीय परिषद् अधिनियम, 1973 की द्वितीय सूची के अनुसार 1950-57 बी० एम० एस० डिप्लोमा राष्ट्रीय

मेडिकल कालेज और अस्पताल, लखनऊ द्वारा प्रदान किया गया था और तत्पश्चात् 1958-60 की अवधि के दौरान और 1970 से आगे यह डिप्लोमा स्टेट बोर्ड आफ होम्योपैथिक मेडिसिन, उत्तर प्रदेश, लखनऊ द्वारा प्रदान किया गया था।

बी० एम० एस० पाठ्यक्रम में हर वर्ष प्रशिक्षण पूरा करने वाले छात्रों की संख्या तत्काल उपलब्ध नहीं है। यह सूचना उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

(ख) देश में होम्योपैथी में स्नातकोत्तर के लिए कोई पाठ्यक्रम नहीं है।

बी० एम० एस० डिग्री

677. श्री इयाराम शास्त्री : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बी० एम० एस० डिग्री को प्रत्येक राज्य में मान्यता मिली हुई है और यदि हाँ, तो अन्य राज्यों के बी० एम० एस० डिग्रीधारियों को उत्तर प्रदेश में नौकरी न दिये जाने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ख) क्या सरकार यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कार्यवाही करेगी कि किसी भी राज्य के बी० एम० एस० डिग्रीधारियों को अन्य राज्यों की सरकारी सेवाओं में नौकरियाँ मिलें ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) 1958-60 की अवधि के दौरान और 1970 से आगे स्टेट बोर्ड आफ होम्योपैथिक मेडिसिन, उत्तर प्रदेश, लखनऊ द्वारा प्रदान किया गया बी० एम० एस० डिप्लोमा तथा 1950-1957 के दौरान राष्ट्रीय होम्योपैथिक मेडिकल कालेज और अस्पताल, लखनऊ द्वारा प्रदान किया गया बी० एम० एस० मान्यताप्राप्त अर्हताएँ हैं और ये अर्हताएँ होम्योपैथी केन्द्रीय परिषद् अधिनियम 1973 की द्वितीय सूची में शामिल की गई हैं। अन्य राज्यों की बी० एम० एस० अर्हताओं को यदि कोई हों, होम्योपैथी केन्द्रीय परिषद् अधिनियम 1973 की द्वितीय सूची के अन्तर्गत मान्यता नहीं दी गई है। अतः अन्य राज्यों के बी० एम० एस० डिग्रीधारियों को उत्तर प्रदेश में नौकरियाँ देने का इस समय प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ख) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता क्योंकि होम्योपैथी केन्द्रीय परिषद् अधिनियम, 1973 के अनुसार बी० एम० एस० डिग्री मान्यता प्राप्त डिग्री नहीं है।

बिहार में प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों का विस्तार

678. श्री सुरेन्द्र झा सुमन : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों के विचार के लिए योजना का व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ख) ऐसा केन्द्र कितनी जनसंख्या पर खोलने की सरकार की नीति है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) 1978-83 की पंचवर्षीय योजना मसौदे में बिहार राज्य सरकार ने निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव किया है;

स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों और उप-केन्द्रों की स्थापना निर्धारित किए गये प्रतिमानों के अनुसरण में 5,761 स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र अथवा उप-केन्द्र खोलने का विचार है। इनमें 10,000 जन संख्या के हिसाब से खोले जाने वाले 596 नये उप-केन्द्र, 5000 जनसंख्या के हिसाब से खोले जाने वाले 5,072 नये उप-केन्द्र, 54 प्राइमरी हेल्थ सेंटर और 39 दर्जा बढ़ाये गये स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र भी शामिल हैं।

(ख) सामान्यतया एक प्राइमरी हेल्थ सेंटर एक लाख लोगों को और एक उप-केन्द्र 10,000 लोगों की सेवाएँ प्रदान करता है। संशोधित प्रतिमान इस प्रकार हैं : 1987-88 तक एक प्राइमरी हेल्थ सेंटर 50,000 लोगों को और एक उप-केन्द्र 5,000 लोगों की सेवा प्रदान करने का लक्ष्य प्राप्त करना है।

Problems of Tribal Sub-Plan Areas

679. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry identified the problems of tribal sub-plan areas of States;

(b) if so, the problems and programmes proposed by his Ministry to solve them; and

(c) money earmarked by his Ministry for the tribal areas and assistance provided to the States for these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b). We are aware of the problems of tribal areas in the field of health and family welfare. The major problem is that a primary health centre which is normally for 80,000 to 1 lakh population,

has not been able to meet the requirements of a tribal area where population is sparse and not easily accessible. There are also some specific diseases like T.B., Leprosy, V.D., Goiter, Yaws etc. which are prevalent in some of the tribal areas. The Ministry of Home Affairs, who are co-ordinating activities for tribal welfare, had recently set up a working group on tribal development during medium term plan, 1978-83. The group also have identified the above two problems and suggested suitable action. Having recognised the inadequacy of present norm of primary health centres for tribal areas, whose problems are different from non-tribal areas, the Central Council of Health and Central Council of Family Welfare have resolved that there should be a separate norm for establishing primary health centres and sub-centres in tribal and other such areas. The State Governments have been advised accordingly.

As regards special health problems in the tribal areas these have been taken care of under the various national health programmes like National Tuberculosis Control—Programme, National Leprosy Control Programme, National Filariasis Control Programme, National Trachoma Control Programme, National Smallpox Eradication Programme, National Malaria Eradication Programme etc. There is also Goiter Control Programme, a disease which is prevalent in hilly areas. There is no doubt that more efforts for tribal areas have to be made for solving the special problems in such areas.

We have under our recent scheme of community health workers allowed relaxation in the selection of and coverage by a community health worker in tribal and difficult areas. However, the basic needs of such areas are also taken care of under the Minimum Needs Programme which is under the State plans.

(c) Statements Nos. I, II, III and IV indicating the outlays for various Centrally Sponsored Health Schemes for tribal areas in 1978-79 are laid on

the Table of the House. ;[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2813/78].

As regards earmarking of funds for the rest of the Sixth Plan period, the scheme-wise outlay is yet to be approved by the Planning Commission/National Development Council. After this is done allocation for tribal areas will be earmarked after discussing their problems with the State representatives.

Identification of Backward Areas in Tele-Communication and Postal Services

680. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry identified the areas of backwardness in telecommunication and postal services in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to eradicate these disparities of development;

(c) allocation provided by his Ministry to the Circles for specific development of these areas; and

(d) the criteria adopted for these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SA): (a) *Telecommunication and Postal*.

Yes, Sir.

(b) Relaxed norms are applied for backward, hilly and tribal areas to provide more and better facilities to these areas.

(c) *Telecommunication*:

During the plan period 1978-83, out of a total plan allocation of Rs. 1848 crores for telecommunication development about 44.80 percent is proposed to be spent in rural areas, small towns and semi-urban centres. Rs. 37.5 crores is to be spent in tribal areas.

Postal

Generally 65 per cent of the Overall targets have been fixed for opening post offices in backward, hilly and tribal areas.

(d) Telecommunication

The present policy provides for provision of telegraph and telephone facilities at places having population of 2500 or more in hilly, tribal and backward areas without any condition of minimum revenue and without any limit of loss as against a population of 5000 in the case of normal areas. The policy has further been liberalized in case of tribal areas such that the limit of 2500 population applies to a group of villages within 10 K.M.s radius of a central village.

The minimum revenue required for sanctioning proposals on loss for other category stations such as tourist/pilgrim centres, out of way places, Police Stations under S.I., Agriculture and irrigation project sites and townships falling in hilly and backward areas is 10 per cent and 15 per cent of the annual recurring expenditure respectively, whereas it is 25 per cent in the case of ordinary areas.

Postal

Under the recently liberalised norms for opening of post offices in such areas, only a minimum of 10 per cent of the anticipated cost of the proposed post office is insisted upon as revenue as against 25 per cent in the case of normal areas. A minimum population of 1000 is enough to justify a new post office in such areas as against 2000 in normal areas. A new post office is opened under these conditions in Gram Panchayat villages or other villages which do not have a post office within 3 kilometers.

Bauxite Deposits

681. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:**
Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state:

(a) the bauxite deposits found in different places of the country and estimated quantity and quality of alumina, State-wise;

(b) project reports under preparation for Aluminium plants and likely to be completed the report for final decision to establish plants; and

(c) funds provided by the Government of India for the preparation of report, project-wise for the year 1978-79?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Feasibility Studies have been commissioned by Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (a Government of India Undertaking) for (i) an alumina plant of 600,000—800,000 tonnes per annum and an aluminium plant of around 160,000 tpa capacity in Orissa and (ii) an alumina plant of 600,000 tpa capacity in Andhra Pradesh. The Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (a State Government Undertaking) has also commissioned a feasibility study for setting up a 300,000 tonnes per annum capacity Alumina plant in Gujarat. Decision on setting up of these alumina/aluminium plants will be taken after their viability has been established through the Feasibility Studies which are expected to be completed by the middle of 1979.

(c) A sum of Rs. 100 lakhs has been provided in the Budget of Bharat Aluminium Co. for 1978-79 for making payments to the consultants for preparation of the Feasibility Reports.

Statement

S. No.	State	Reserves in million tonnes	Alumina content (%)
(All categories)			
1	Andhra Pradesh	325.00	47-48
2	Orissa	1323.12	40-55
3	Maharashtra	128.14	40-62
4	Madhya Pradesh	107.02	40-64
5	Bihar	75.48	40-63
6	Gujarat	77.39	40-63
7	Goa	24.59	40-57
8	Karnataka	23.67	40-64
9	Uttar Pradesh	15.48	40-56
10	Kerala	7.73	40-60
11	Tamil Nadu	6.37	40-55
12	Jammu & Kashmir	2.78	40-65
		2190.00	40-65

Bauxite Deposits in Koraput, Orissa

682. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided by the Government of Orissa and the Government of India for survey and proving the quantity and quality of bauxite deposits in Koraput District of Orissa up to now;

(b) the steps taken by the State and Centre with concerned authorities for establishment of Aluminium plant in Koraput, Orissa; and

(c) when the project report for Aluminium plant is likely to be completed and considered for finalisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) : (a) Funds are not allocated by the Geological Survey of India on individual mineral

investigation basis. The Government of India have approved incurring an expenditure of Rs. 474.52 lakhs for exploration of bauxite in the area by the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited. No information is available regarding funds provided by the Government of Orissa for the purpose.

(b) and (c). A Feasibility Study for setting up an export-oriented alumina/aluminium plant based on Orissa bauxite deposits has been commissioned. Steps for establishment of an alumina/aluminium project in Orissa can be taken only after viability of the project has been established through the Feasibility Study, which is expected to be available by May, 1979.

HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat

683. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to re-

fer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2655 on the 3rd August, 1978 regarding medicines purchased from M/s. HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat, and state:

(a) whether the officers who were instrumental in making the purchases for the various hospitals and dispensaries detailed in (b) of the reply were aware that this concern had been manufacturing sub-standard drugs and drugs without licence; and

(b) whether this concern has now been blacklisted from the list of authorised suppliers to Government, if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE : (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir; the purchases in question are reported to have been effected and item accepted; only when the representative samples were approved by Analytical Testing Corporation, Lucknow. The firm has the requisite licence.

(b) The Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals have prescribed criteria for the blacklisting of firms. Since M/s. HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat have not been found guilty of violating the prescribed criteria the question of its being blacklisted has not been considered.

Amendment of Drugs and Cosmetics Act

684. **SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to amend the Drugs and Cosmetics Act for allowing matriculates to work as pharmacists after only six months training;

(b) whether this amendment not affect the level of knowledge which is essential for a pharmacist; and

(c) what are the reasons for effecting such an amendment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c). The fifth Joint Conference of the Central Council of Health and the Central Family Welfare Council held in October, 1978 had considered the situation arising out of the acute shortage of qualified pharmacists in the country and recommended that Rule 65(15) of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules be amended so as to provide for recognition of a person who a matriculate and possesses not less than 3 years practical experience in the dispensing of drugs or a person possessing not less than 7 years practical experience in the dispensing of drugs as a "qualified person" if he has passed a short term training course of 6 months duration approved by the State Government.

Before any amendment to the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules is made Government is required to consult the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, which is a statutory body constituted under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. The aforesaid recommendations of the central Council of Health and Central Family Welfare Council has therefore been included as an agenda item for discussion at the meeting of the Drugs Technical Advisory Board proposed to be held in December, 1978. Further action in the matter will be taken by the Government after the pros and cons of the problem have been considered by the Board.

Development of Health Schemes in Lakshadweep

685. **SHRI P. M. SAYEED:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Ministry have completely ignored the development of health schemes in the Lakshadweep area upto now;

(b) if so, whether sufficient hospitals have not been set up by the Union Government there;

(c) whether many people die there due to the lack of proper medical aid;

(d) how much money has been spent by the Ministry so far in this regard in the Lakshadweep; and

(e) how much is likely to be spent in the next year and also in the next Five-Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) There are 2 hospitals, 7 primary Health Centres, 1 First Aid Centre and 1 Ayurvedic Dispensary. There is a hospital or Primary Health Centre in each island except Bitra where a First Aid Centre is functioning.

(c) and (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(e) During the 6th Plan (1978—83), the Lakshadweep Administration has proposed a sum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs, out of which Rs. 10.35 lakhs is proposed for 1979-80.

Schemes for Labour Welfare in Lakshadweep

686. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conditions of labour in the Lakshadweep Islands is one of the worst in comparison to the other States;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have not taken any steps so far to improve the labour conditions in the Island;

(c) what amount was spent by the Union Ministry to improve the labour welfare in the area;

(d) what were the schemes prepared by the Ministry;

(e) the reasons for not allotting sufficient funds for the same and whether Union Government are consider-

ing to give more attention to the welfare of the labour in the Lakshadweep during the next year; and

(f) if so, what are the schemes likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) : (a) No, Sir

(b) It has been reported by the Lakshadweep Administration that the benefits under different labour enactments viz. Payment of Wages Act, Minimum Wages Act, Factories Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, Maternity Benefit Act, Employment of Children Act and Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act and Schemes made thereunder are available to the workers in the Union Territory. The minimum wage of an unskilled worker is Rs. 5.25 per day. Besides, the workers are entitled to free medical aid and free education including books, writing materials and mid-day meals for their children.

(c) to (f). No amount was specifically earmarked or spent for labour welfare since no separate labour welfare schemes were in force but in the draft Five Year Plan 1978—83, a provision of Rs. 25.000/- has been proposed for payment of allowance for casual labourers for treatment of minor injuries caused by accident in the course of employment.

Help to Tamil Nadu for Overcoming Labour Troubles

687. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been many labour troubles in the Tamil Nadu for the last one year; and

(b) what assistance the Union Government has given or is considering to give to help the State Government to overcome the labour troubles in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) During the period September, 1977 to August, 1978 the mandays lost due to strikes and lockouts in Tamil Nadu were 3.11 millions as compared to 1.47 millions during the period September, 1976 to August, 1977.

(b) All efforts are made to improve the industrial climate in the country with the help of the Central and State Industrial Relations Machineries, as appropriate. Wherever necessary, the Union Government and the various State Governments are intervening in disputes in the Central Sphere and State Sphere respectively with a view to promoting settlements.

Irregularities in Calcutta Office of IISCO

688. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since enquired into the financial irregularities in the Calcutta office of the Indian Iron and Steel Company;

(b) legal action taken or proposed to be taken against those who are responsible for irregularities;

(c) the total amount of loss suffered by the company due to irregularities; and

(d) how it is proposed to make good this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to certain irregularities in steel transactions of the Calcutta stockyard of IISCO which were reported in the Press a few months ago. The Board of Directors of IISCO have appointed a Sub-Committee of the Directors to look into the allegations in the light of comments received from the Sales Department and to make recommendations for necessary action.

(b) to (d). The Sub-Committee is expected to submit its report to the Board of Directors at their next meeting to be held on December 6, 1978. Further action will be taken by IISCO on the basis of the decisions of the Board.

यूनिवर्सल पेपर मिल्स, कलकत्ता द्वारा जमा कराई गई भविष्य निधि तथा कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा की राशि

689. श्री हुकुम चन्द कछवाय : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) यूनिवर्सल पेपर मिल्स, कलकत्ता ने गत दो वर्षों के दौरान भविष्य निधि तथा कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा की कितनी राशि जमा कराई है ;

(ख) क्या उक्त कागज मिल ने गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान श्रम कल्याण कानूनों का उल्लंघन किया है, और यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार को अब तक कितनी शिकायतें मिल चुकी हैं; और श्रेणी 2, 3 तथा 4 के कितने कर्मचारी बिना कोई कारण बताए नोटिस दिये छुट्टी किये गये हैं और इस समय वहाँ कितने ठेका-श्रमिक का नैमित्तिक श्रमिक काम कर रहे हैं, और

(ग) क्या बड़ी संख्या में श्रमिकों को नियमों के अनुसार मजूरी अदा नहीं की जा रही है और क्या सरकार उनकी इस समस्या की ओर ध्यान देगी ?

श्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ० राम कृपाल सिंह) : (क) कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि प्राधिकारियों ने सूचित किया है कि मैसर्स यूनिवर्सल पेपर मिल्स, झरग्राम जिला मदनपुरा को मितम्बर, 77 में ही स्थापित किया गया था। छोटी प्रतिष्ठान होने के कारण, कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि और प्रकीर्ण, उपबन्ध अधिनियम, 1952 इस पर लागू नहीं होता है। कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अधिनियम के उपबन्धों को भी अभी तक उस क्षेत्र में लागू नहीं किया गया है, जहाँ यह कारखाना स्थित है।

(ख) और (ग) यह मामला राज्य के क्षेत्राधिकार में आता है।

ईस्ट कोस्ट पेपर कम्पनी, कलकत्ता द्वारा भविष्य निधि का जमा कराया जाना

690. श्री हुकुम चन्द कछवाय : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ईस्ट कोस्ट पेपर कम्पनी लिमिटेड ब्रिटिश इंडिया स्ट्रीट, कलकत्ता ने गत दो वर्षों

में भविष्य निधि और राज्य बीमा योजना के अन्तर्गत चलने वाली योजना में कितनी धनराशि जमा कराई है;

(ख) क्या गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इस पेपर कम्पनी द्वारा भ्रम कल्याण कानून का उल्लंघन किया गया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो अब तक कितनी शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं और बिना कारण बताए दूसरी, तीसरी और चौथी श्रेणी के कितने कर्मचारियों की छंटनी की गई है और कितने व्यक्ति ठेके पर और कितने दैनिक मजूरी के आधार पर काम कर रहे हैं; और

(घ) क्या काफी मजदूरों को नियमानुसार बेतन नहीं दिया जा रहा है और क्या सरकार इस पर ध्यान देगी?

भ्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम कृपाल सिंह) : (क) कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम ने सूचित किया है कि उपलब्ध रिकार्ड के अनुसार कारखाने का नाम 'ईस्ट कोस्ट पेकिंग लिमिटेड' है; जो कलकत्ता-48 में स्थित है। यह कारखाना 2-8-1976 से कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अधिनियम, 1948 के अधीन आता है और इस कारखाने ने 2-8-1976 से 30-9-1978 को समान्त भ्रंशदान भवधि तक 31,344.30 रुपये की धन-राशि जमा की है। कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि प्राधिकारियों ने सूचित किया है कि उपलब्ध रिकार्डों के अनुसार मैसर्स ईस्ट कोस्ट पेपर कम्पनी, ब्रिटिश इंडिया स्टूट कलकत्ता नाम का प्रतिष्ठान कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि और प्रकीर्ण उपबन्ध अधिनियम, 1952 के अधीन नहीं आता है।

(ख), (ग) और (घ) यह मामला राज्य के श्रमविभाग में आता है और केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास कोई सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है।

ब्रिगेणो टिशू लिमिटेड, कलकत्ता द्वारा भविष्य निधि और राज्य कर्मचारी बीमा में योजना के अन्तर्गत जमा कराई गई राशि

691. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा भ्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ब्रिगेणो टिशू लिमिटेड 3-नेताजी सुभाष रोड, कलकत्ता चन्द्रादय हुगली द्वारा पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान भविष्य निधि और कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा योजना के अन्तर्गत कितनी राशि जमा कराई गई ;

(ख) क्या उक्त पेपर मिल ने गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान भ्रम कल्याण कानून का उल्लंघन किया है और यदि हां, तो सरकार को अब तक इस बारे में कितनी शिकायतें मिली हैं और चतुर्थ श्रेणी तथा तृतीय श्रेणी के कितने कर्म-

चारियों को कारण बताओ नोटिस दिये बिना छंटनी कर दी गई है ; और इस समय कितने कर्मचारी भ्रम्यायी और स्थायी तथा ठेकेदारी तथा दैनिक विहाही पर काम पर लगे हुए हैं ; और

(ग) क्या बहुत से श्रमिकों को नियमानुसार मंजूरी भदा नहीं की जा रही है और क्या सरकार इस समस्या को और ध्यान देगी ?

भ्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम कृपाल सिंह) : (क) भविष्य निधि प्राधिकारियों ने सूचित किया है कि मैसर्स ब्रिगेणो टिशू लिमिटेड, नं० 3 नेताजी सुभाष रोड, कलकत्ता छूट-प्राप्त प्रतिष्ठान है और पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान उसने संलग्न विवरण में दिखाई गई राशियां जमा करा दी हैं।

अगस्त, 1976 से जुलाई, 1978 की अवधि के दौरान मैसर्स ब्रिगेणो टिशू लिमिटेड, कलकत्ता द्वारा कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा के खाते में अपने भ्रंशदान के रूप में कुल 1,69,607.45 रुपये की राशि का भुगतान कर दिया गया है।

(ख) तथा (ग) यह मामला राज्य श्रमविभाग में आता है और केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास कोई सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है।

विवरण

रुपये

10/78	27,827.22	जुलाई, 1978 से सित-
11/76	43,910.32	म्बर 1978 तक की
12/76	28,497.46	अवधि के बारे में देय
1/77	28,145.02	राशि प्रतिष्ठान द्वारा
2/77	28,625.40	अपने न्यासी बोर्ड के
3/77	28,098.96	पास अभी तक जमा नहीं
4/77	29,486.74	करवाई गई हैं। प्रबं-
5/77	28,756.94	घतंत्र के विरुद्ध आगे
6/77	29,236.98	की कानूनी कार्यवाही
7/77	28,941.12	करने के लिए जमा न
8/77	29,088.86	की गई राशि के व्योरे
9/77	29,022.70	निर्धारित किए जा रहे
10/77	29,292.24	हैं।
11/77	30,741.70	
12/77	29,646.52	
1/78	29,560.32	
2/78	29,454.70	
3/78	31,041.52	
4/78	30,019.44	

5/78	.	.	.	22,601.98
6/78,	.	.	.	30,378.82
7/78 से 9/78	.	.	.	ब्यौरा प्राप्त नहीं हुआ ।

Industrial Disputes Act

692. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently struck down certain provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act regarding lock-out and closure of business; and

(b) if so, Government's views thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) According to Newspaper reports the Supreme Court has struck down Section 25(O) and part of Section 25(R) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 regarding closure of an undertaking.

(b) Government will examine the matter on receipt of the full text of the judgment.

Relaxation of Age for Selection of Mazdoors

693. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received representations for age relaxation for the selection of Mazdoors to regular service; and

(b) if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Casual Mazdoors are given age relaxation as per orders of the Depart-

ment of Personnel for the period they have worked as such. Broken periods of service of not less than 6 months are also taken into account for this purpose. Casual Mazdoors who are not within the prescribed age limit, even after granting above age concession, generally represent for further concession which is not permissible under the Rules.

Production of Sponge Iron

694. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to instal on experimental device for production of sponge iron;

(b) if so, where and at what cost, the rated capacity, type of fuel, facts in details;

(c) whether the cost of sponge iron compares with the cost of steel scrap, if so, the details of that; and

(d) has any decision taken on technical know-how and whether any assistance from firms abroad is being sought, if so, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. A demonstration plant for production of sponge iron is being set up jointly by the Government of India and the Government of Andhra Pradesh. In addition, the Research and Development Centre under the Steel Authority of India Ltd. is also setting up Pilot Plant and Laboratory facilities for the development of direct reduction process technology for production of sponge iron.

(b) The plant being set up jointly by the Government of India and Govt. of Andhra Pradesh at Kothagudem in Andhra Pradesh is estimated to cost Rs. 11.40 crores. Its capacity is 30,000 tonnes per annum. No-cokig coal will be used as reductant.

The plant being set up by the Research and Development centre of SAIL is at Ranchi. Its estimated cost

is Rs. 4.78 crores. This Pilot plant is for the development of rotary kiln direct reduction process technology based on non-coking coal as reductant. Subsequently, they may consider development of other processes. Initially, its production capacity will be 10 tonnes per day.

(c) Scrap prices vary widely from time to time depending on market conditions. It is also difficult at this stage to give the price of sponge iron as no unit has gone into commercial production yet. However, according to various technical assessments, the cost of indigenously produced sponge iron is likely to compare favourably with domestic scrap prices.

(d) The demonstration plant at Kothagudem, Andhra Pradesh is being set up with the assistance of UNDP/UNIDO. It is based on SL/RN process of M/s. Lurgi Chemie of West Germany, as this process know-how is not available in this country. Orders for the import of these items of equipment only have been placed abroad in consultation with UNIDO which could not be obtained indigenously within the time frame in which they were required.

As regards the pilot plant being set up by the R&D Centre of Steel Authority of India Ltd., no assistance from abroad is being sought.

M/s. OTTO (India) Ltd., Calcutta

695. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) has M/s. OTTO (India) Ltd., Calcutta been given contract by the Ministry for rebuilding of Coke ovens in IISCO, Burnpur; and

(b) if so, of how many batteries and the cost of contract, facts in details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) The order for construction of a new coke oven battery No. 10 has been placed by the Indian Iron and Steel Company

Limited on M/s. Simon Carves (India) Ltd., on turn-key basis, with M/s. Otto (India) Limited as sub-contractors in respect of the coke oven battery and the oven machines. The job will be executed under joint and several responsibility of both the parties.

(b) The contract envisages design, supply, installation and commissioning of one coke oven battery of 78 ovens (4.5 metre high) and the associated bye-product plant, coal and coke handling plants and other facilities at a total cost of Rs. 22.50 crores, including Rs. 11.81 crores for the work allotted to Otto (India) Limited. The contract was awarded on the basis of quotations received from Hindustan Steel works Construction Limited (HSCL), Engineering Projects (India) Limited (EPIL), and Simon Carves India Limited (SCIL) against tender enquiry issued to seven leading builders of coke ovens in the country. On a comparable basis, the quotations were:—

(1) HSCL	Rs. 2938 lakhs
(2) EPIL	Rs. 2642 "
(3) SCIL	Rs. 2480 "

As a result of discussion with the tenderers, Simon Carves India Limited reduced their quotation to Rs. 2276 lakhs while, at the same time, improving the technological design. An opportunity was given to EPIL to match this price. However, EPIL did not agree to reduce their price below Rs. 2318 lakhs, which was still Rs. 42 lakhs higher than the final quotation of SCIL. The Board of Directors of IISCO, therefore, awarded the contract to SCIL, with Otto India Limited as their sub-contractor.

Expansion of Postal Services in Laddakh

696. SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to develop and expand postal service to meet the growing demand of Zaskar in Laddakh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): Orders for opening a post office at Padam-Zanskar have already been issued. The post office will start functioning on completion of a road now under construction from Kargil to Padam. The post office will function from June to November each year.

लद्दाख में बोरेक्स और छाद्य सोडा के निक्षेप

697. श्रीमती पार्वती देवी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि लद्दाख में बोरेक्स और छाद्य सोडा जैसे खनिज पर्याप्त मात्रा में पाए जाते हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इन खनिजों का पर्याप्त विकास करने और इन खनिजों पर आधारित स्थानीय उद्योग स्थापित करने के प्रस्ताव पर सरकार विचार करेगी ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कटिया मुन्डा) : (क) लद्दाख जिले में कुल बोरेक्स के 5400 टन भंडारों का अनुमान है। इस निक्षेप का प्रतिवर्ष पुनर्भरण हो रहा है। पुनर्भरण की दर अनुमानतः 1250 टन प्रतिवर्ष है। उक्त जिले में लगभग 6,60,000 टन सोडियम माल्ट होने का भी पता चला है।

(ख) जम्मू और कश्मीर मिनरल्स लि०, जो राज्य सरकार का प्रतिष्ठान है, प्रायोगिक संयंत्र पैमाने पर बोरेक्स निकाल रहा है।

Collection of Medical Literature from Laddakh

698. SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Council for Research in Indian Medicines and Homoeopathy had initiated a survey and visits to various monasteries and gampas in Laddakh for collecting medical literature and make it available for the benefit of humanity; and

(b) what concrete steps have been taken for the development and encouragement of Aunchi system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The Central

Council for Research in Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy had deputed a special survey team to Laddakh to explore the herbomineral wealth, medical literature and the local medical practices. On the basis of the material collected by the survey team, the Council has brought out a publication entitled 'Preliminary Techno Economical Survey of Natural Resources and Herbal Wealth of Laddakh'. The Council also deputed another medicobotanical team to Leh for a period of three months in July 1978 for further explorations in Laddakh.

A detailed monograph is being brought out incorporating the details of flora and fauna, mineral wealth, medical practices, socio-religious customs etc. of this region.

(b) The Council has established two research projects at Leh and Dharamshala respectively for the development of Amchi system in its various facets. An amount of Rs. 2.25,500 has been earmarked for this purpose during the current financial year.

Alumina Plant in Gujarat

699. SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been made with the Hungarian firm for establishing an Alumina Plant in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions; and

(c) the site selected for setting up the said plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). The Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC) have recently concluded an agreement with M/s. CHEMA-KOMPLEX of Hungary for preparing a feasibility study for setting up an export oriented alumina plant of 3,00,000 tonnes per annum capacity in Gujarat State. The study is likely to be completed by the middle of 1979.

(c) These details will be known only after the feasibility study is completed by the Hungarian Agency.

Proposal to take over Key Industries

700. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to take over some Key Industries of the country like IISCO, TISCO and HINDALCO; and

(b) if so, broad outlines of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) is already a Government Company since 1976, the Central Government having acquired the shares of the company held by parties other than the State Governments and Public Sector institutions.

As for TISCO and HINDALCO, there have been suggestions for their take over by Government from time to time, but Government have taken no decision in this matter.

CGHS facilities in other hospitals

702. SHRI RUDOLPH RODRIGUES: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend C.G.H.S. facilities for general medical cases to other hospitals in Delhi for the convenience of residents of those areas where these facilities are not speedily available; and

(b) if so, the details of the plans involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMI-

LY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal to give recognition to hospitals under the Delhi Administration and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi for CGHS beneficiaries is under consideration.

Health Budgets

703. SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN: SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: SHRI D. AMAT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has appealed to the Indian Government to increase their health budgets and to reshape their health systems so that essential health care is provided to every citizen; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir. WHO has not made any such appeal to the Indian Government. However, at an International Conference on Primary Health Care sponsored jointly by WHO and the United Nations International Children's Fund, held at Alma Atta, USSR, from 6-12 September 1978, a declaration was adopted urging the whole world community to support national and international commitment to primary health care and to channel increased technical and financial support to it, particularly, in the developing countries.

(b) The Government of India is alive to the problem and within the limitations of financial resources, efforts are being made to improve primary health care.

Production of Steel Plants

704. **SHRI S. R. DAMANI:** Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of fall in production of steel by the various steel plants in the public sector;

(b) the various items under which the fall has been registered; and

(c) the effective measures being taken to catch up the targeted production during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) The aggregate production of saleable steel from the public sector steel plants (including IISCO) during the period, April—October 1978, was 2.854 million tonnes. This was lower than the production during the corresponding period in the previous year by about six per cent.

(b) The shortfall was mainly in HR coils and strips, plates, C.R. sheets/coils, bars and rods, railway materials, structurals and semis.

(c) The production has been adversely affected mainly on account of continued problems in supplies of coal, both in terms of quantity and quality; shortage and frequent restrictions/fluctuations in power supply; indifferent industrial relations in some of the Plants; and unprecedented rains and floods in West Bengal in September, 1978, resulting in flooding of coalfields as well as Durgapur Steel Plant and affecting the rail movement. Close liaison is being maintained with the Ministry of Energy, D.V.C., concerned Electricity Boards, coal supply agencies and the railways so as to secure maximum supplies of power and coal. Arrangements have also been made to import one million tonnes of low ash coking coal in order to supplement indigenous supplies. It is expected that with all these measures the production in the remaining 5 months of this financial year will improve considerably.

3051 LS—5

Establishment of new Steel Plants

705. **SHRI AMAR SINH V. RATHAWA:**

SHRI SARAT KAR:

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM:

SHRI AHMED M. PATEL:

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA:

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:

Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish new steel plant in the country during the next five years;

(b) if so, the number of such plants and site selected;

(c) whether they are to be set up with foreign collaboration; and

(d) if so, the names of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) to (d). Government have lately been considering the feasibility of setting up three shore-based steel plants. Preliminary discussions have been held with certain countries such as USSR, Romania, West Germany and U.K. on the project concept and nature of assistance which can be provided by them for establishing the projects. These discussions are still continuing.

Establishment of aluminium plants

706. **SHRI AMAR SINH V. RATHAWA:** Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish alumina plant in the country with the help of Soviet Union;

(b) if so, the site selected;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted; and

(d) the approximate capacity of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) to (d). The Feasibility Study for setting up an export-oriented alumina plant of 600,000 tonnes per annum capacity based on bauxite deposits in Andhra Pradesh is under preparation by M/s. Tsvetmetpromexport, a Soviet organisation, and is expected to be received by BALCO by middle of 1979. Decision on establishment of the project, including its location, will depend upon the results of the Feasibility Study.

Accommodation dispute in Sucheta Kripalani Hospital

707. **SHRI B. P. MANDAL:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi University authorities had taken 58 rooms from the authorities of Sucheta Kripalani Hospital for accommodating girl students for a period of one year by which time Delhi University expected to complete a 50 room hostel of their own, if so, the date on which the 58 rooms were taken from the Hospital;

(b) whether some doctors forcibly locked some rooms and ejected the girls; and

(c) whether any steps were taken in the matter by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b). The Principal of the Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) had agreed to place at the disposal of the University of Delhi 56 rooms of the old undergraduate hostel on a temporary basis to accommodate women students of the University. In pursuance of this some of the women students of the Delhi University locked a few rooms after keeping their belongings on 30th October, 1978 but this action was resisted by the Junior Doctors/interns of the LHMC. It is understood from

the principal of the Lady Hardinge Medical College that no woman student was ejected from any room. As per report of the warden of the University, locks were put by the Junior Doctors on some of the rooms already locked.

(b) Government have looked into the matter. In view of adverse reaction of the Junior Doctors/Interns of the College, it does not seem at present feasible for the College to give possession of the rooms in question to the University of Delhi.

Legislation for Agricultural Labourers

708. **SHRI K. A. RAJAN:**

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision on the proposed legislation for agricultural labourer in line with the Kerala Agricultural Workers Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Overseas Manpower Corporation

709. **SHRI K. A. RAJAN:**

SHRI NATVERLAL B. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to set up an Overseas Manpower Corporation; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposal and measures being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) No
such proposal is under consideration
at present.

(b) Does not arise.

**Plan for settlement of 'Bonded
Labours' and their number,
State-wise**

710. SHRI S. R. REDDY:

SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR
GUPTA:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK:

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN
NAIR:

SHRIMATI PARVATHI
KRISHNAN:

SHRI SHAMBHU NATH
CHATURVEDI:

SHRI S. S. SOMANI:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have re-
cently framed a plan for the settle-
ment of the 'Bonded Labours' thro-
ughout the country;

(b) if so, the number of such bon-
ded labours State-wise; and

(c) the details regarding the plan
as well as the amount that has been
granted by the Central Government,
State-wise, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PAR-
LIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LA-
RANG SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The enclosed state-
ment summarises the available infor-
mation regarding the number of bon-
ded labour identified, freed and reha-
bilitated, State-wise as on 31st May,
1978. The State Governments who
are responsible for the implementa-
tion of the Bonded Labour System
(Abolition) Act, 1976, have been advis-
ed to undertake the rehabilitation of
freed bonded labour under the on-go-
ing schemes.

A Centrally sponsored scheme has
also been formulated for the rehabili-
tation of Bonded Labour with a pro-
vision of Rs. 1 crore during the year
1978-79 for the purpose of rendering
financial assistance to the States in
their programmes of rehabilitation of
bonded labour, on matching grant
basis, in areas which are not covered
by the on-going Schemes. Guidelines
have been drawn up in consultation
with the State Governments, Central
Ministries and the Planning Commis-
sion and circulated to the State Gov-
ernments for formulating schemes of
rehabilitation of bonded labour in the
light of these Guidelines. In terms of
the Guidelines, the schemes that may
be drawn up by the State Govern-
ments may be: (a) land based, (b)
non-land based and (c) skill/craft-
based, depending upon local conditions
and needs. A Screening Committee of
officers of the Ministry of Labour, De-
partment of Rural Development and
the Planning Commission set up for
the purpose examines and approves
the schemes received from the State
Governments for Central assistance.
Rehabilitation schemes have so far
been received from the State Govern-
ments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kar-
nataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh,
Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and

Uttar Pradesh. These schemes have been examined by the Screening Committee and on the basis of its recom-

mendations the position, Statewise, regarding allocation of funds by Government is as follows:

S. No.	No. of Bonded Labour likely to be benefitted by the proposed Schemes	Central allocation approved or 1978-79. (in Rs.)
1 Andhra Pradesh	1670	20.00 lakhs
2 Bihar	534	14.28 lakhs
3 Karnataka	441	8.00 lakhs
4 Kerala	110	2.20 lakhs
5 Madhya Pradesh	859	17.00 lakhs
6 Orissa	315	5.11 lakhs
7 Rajasthan	700	14.00 lakhs
8 Tamil Nadu	268	5.32 lakhs
9 Uttar Pradesh	495	10.00 lakhs
TOTAL	5792	95.91 lakhs

NUMBER OF BONDED LABOUR AS ON 31-5-1978

(Based on information received from State Governments)

S. No.	State	Total number of Bonded Labourers		
		Identified	Freed	Rehabilitated
1	2	3	4	5
1 Andhra Pradesh		6,930	6,930	4,154
2 Bihar		2,857	2,857	613
3 Gujarat		42	42	42
4 Karnataka		64,042	64,042	7,804
5 Kerala		900	900	186
6 Madhya Pradesh		1,612	1,531	33

1	2	3	4	5
7	Maharashtra	Figures not yet intimated.		
8	Mizoram	3	3	..
9	Orissa	669	319	313
10	Rajasthan	6,000	6,000	3,531
11	Tamil Nadu	2,883	2,883	[2,363
12	Uttar Pradesh	19,242	19,242	12,805
TOTAL		1,05,180	1,04,749	31,844

Inclusion of representative of Agricultural Labour in Standing Committee

711. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
DR. P. V. PERIASAMY:
SHRI S. G. MURUGAIYAN:
SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives from
the actual agricultural labour organi-
sations have been included in the
Standing Committee on agricultural
labour;

(b) if so, the names of agricultural
labour organisations with number of
membership, separately; and

(c) the reasons for not including any
representative from the Karshaka
Thozhilali (Agriculture Labourers')
Union whose membership is about 2
lakhs, the biggest agriculture labour
union in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PAR-
LIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI
LARANG SAI): (a) to (c). Pursuant to
a recommendation of the Special Con-
ference on Rural Unorganised Labour
held in New Delhi on 25th January
1978, a Central Standing Committee on
Rural Unorganised Labour has been
constituted to advise Government on
matters relating to improving the liv-
ing and working conditions of rural

unorganised labour and promoting
their organisation.

Government does not have informa-
tion about the relative verified mem-
bership of the various agricultural
labour organisations. Government's
intention, while deciding the composi-
tion of this Committee has been to
give as wide a representation, as pos-
sible to rural unorganised workers
organisations, autonomous institutions,
individuals, etc., interested in problems
relating to rural unorganised labour.
A copy of the Government Resolution
No. M. 14011(4)/78-AL dated Septem-
ber 28, 1978 which shows the inter-
ests/organisations represented on the
Standing Committee is laid on the
Table of the House. [Placed in Libra-
ry. See No. LT-2814/78]. Represen-
tations have been received from agri-
cultural labour organisations includ-
ing the Karshaka Thozhilali Union,
and some other interests for represen-
tation on the Committee. These are
being considered.

Resolving stalemate in Wage Boards for journalists and non-journalists

712. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state what further steps Gov-
ernment have taken to resolve the
stalemate in respect of functioning of
the Wage Board for journalists and
non-journalists employees in the news-
paper industry?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): In the
meeting held by Labour Minister on
27/3/78 the employees' representatives
had made certain proposals to resolve
the stalemate. Subsequently, in a
meeting held on the 22nd July, 1978,
the employers' representatives were
asked to come up with alternative pro-
posals before the 30th July, 1978, if
the proposals mooted earlier by the
employees' representatives were not
acceptable to them. As no alternative
proposals were received by that date,
the wage Boards were advised to pro-
ceed with their work.

Wage Boards, thereafter, held a sit-
ting at Bombay on 4th September 1978.
Soon thereafter, on the two Writ Peti-
tions filed by the Indian and Eastern
Newspapers Society and Others, the
Bombay High Court passed an injunc-
tion order restraining the members of
the Wage Boards, (other than the rep-
resentatives of the employers) from
holding or proceeding with any meet-
ings of the Wage Boards. The order
was confirmed on 10th October, 1978.

An appeal has been filed before the
Division Bench of the Bombay High
Court for getting the injunction vaca-
ted.

Government are considering other
ways and means to resolve the im-
passe.

प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत में डाकखाने खोलना

713. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : क्या
संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत में एक डाक
खाना खोलने का प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत
मुख्यालय में डाकखाना कब तक खोला जाएगा ;
और

(ग) बिहार के खगरिया मंडल में कितनी
ग्राम पंचायतों में अभी तक डाकखाने नहीं खोले
?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि
प्रसाद सुखदेव साह) : (क) और (ख) ग्राम पंचा-
यतों वाले केवल ऐसे गांवों में डाकघर खोलने
का प्रस्ताव है, जहाँ 3 किलोमीटर के घेरे में कोई
डाकघर नहीं है और जो कुछ विनियम मान्य
पूरे करते हैं। इन मानदंडों के अनुसार किसी
ग्राम पंचायत वाले गांव के डाकघर में सामान्य
देहाती इलाकों में उसकी अनुमानित लागत को
कम से कम 25 प्रतिशत और भादिवानी, पहाड़ी
व पिछड़े इलाकों में उसकी अनुमानित लागत की
10 प्रतिशत घाय होनी चाहिए।

(ग) 33

सन्तति निरोध के लिये बिहार राज्य को धनराशि का आवंटन

714. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : क्या
स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने
की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) परिवार कल्याण कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत
सन्तति निरोध कार्यक्रम के लिये बिहार राज्य को
कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की गई ; और

(ख) बिहार राज्य के बारे में वर्ष 1978-
79 के लिये क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है
और इस बारे में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य
मंत्री (श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव) : (क)
यह आवंटन परिवार कल्याण के संयुक्त कार्यक्रमों
के लिये है जिनका सन्तति निरोध से है।
1978-79 के लिये बिहार राज्य को 651.68
लाख रुपये की राशि आवंटित की गई है जिसमें
85.00 लाख रुपये लूप निवेशन और स्वेच्छा से
नसबन्दी आपरेशन करवाने वालों को मुद्दावजे
का भुगतान करने के लिये भी शामिल है।

(ख) 1978-79 के लिये निर्धारित किये
गये सन्तति निरोध के तरीकों के बारे में कार्य-
निष्पादन के स्तर और सितम्बर, 1978 तक उप-
लब्धियाँ (जैसा कि राज्य सरकार ने सूचित किया
है) नीचे दिये गये हैं—

कार्य निष्पा दन के प्रत्या- शित स्तर	सितम्बर, 1978 तक उपलब्धियाँ 1978-79
--	--

1. स्वेच्छा से नसबन्दी आपरेशन	4,13,100	9,652
2. लूप निवेशन	62,200	1,963
3. समीकृत प्रचलित गर्भ-निरोधक उप- योगकर्ता	2,09,300	19,868

Transfer of officers by Chief Labour Commissioner

715. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Administrative Manual of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) provide for minimum three years tenure of stay for officers at one place;

(b) if so, the reasons for the transfer of 16 officers (from 30th September, 1977 to 22nd June, 1978) within one year of even less on Government account, the amount paid in the shape of transfer allowances etc. and the persons responsible for this loss to the exchequer;

(c) whether two officers who are real brothers were transferred within a year from Karnataka and Kanpur to their home place Dhanbad in the same office at the whims of the C.L.C. Delhi; and

(d) the officers who have been repeatedly transferred at short intervals in the months of June, 1978 to July, 1978 by the C.L.C. with reasons for such quick transfers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) The Departmental Manual of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) provides, "Normally, no officer should be kept at one place for more than three years and no officer should be transferred before he or she completes three years at a particular place/headquarters. There can be exceptions to this rule for valid reasons and administrative considerations".

(b) Only two officers who had not completed a period of one year at their place of posting were transferred, on Government account, during the period 30-9-77 to 22-6-78. Their transfers were on administrative considerations. The total expenditure so far incurred on their transfer T.A. comes to Rs. 2,004.45.

(c) The two officers were transferred after careful consideration of their representations.

(d) The places of postings of the following officers, who were transferred on 6-6-78 had to be changed subsequently for administrative reasons:—

- (i) Shri R. V. Tayade
- (ii) Shri M. J. Khemchandani
- (iii) Shri S. P. Devrani
- (iv) Shri C. Shivrama Krishna

The changes in the places of postings involved only one movement, in each case.

Seminar of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare

716. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR GUPTA:

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Seminar of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare consisting of all State Health Ministers and Union Government Officials was held in New Delhi during the month of October, 1978;

(b) if so, the nature of discussion held in the Seminar; and

(c) the decision arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The Fifth Joint Conference of the Central Council of Health and Central Family Welfare Council was held in New Delhi from 6th to 8th October, 1978.

(b) and (c). Agenda items discussed at the Conference and a gist of the resolutions adopted are at Annexures I & II respectively laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2815/78]. Five copies of the agenda items and detailed resolutions adopted at the Conference have been placed in the Library of the Parliament.

Grievances of steel workers of Mandi Govind Garh

717. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation regarding the grievances of steel workers in Mandi Govind Garh in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). Certain representations on grievances of the workers employed by the contractors of the Punjab State Small Industries Corporation who are presently acting as a consignment agent of SAIL at Mandi Gobindgarh have been received. This was taken up with the Government of Punjab. They have informed that all basic amenities are provided to the workers of the handling contractor of the Corporation.

Steel Mills at Govind Garh

718. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the steel supplied to the steel mills at Mandi Govind Garh in Punjab is not sufficient for them; and

(b) if so, whether Government will increase the quota of steel supplied to Mandi Govind Garh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Supplies of billets, the principal item of demand of the rerollers at Mandi Gobindgarh, by main products, i.e. the integrated steel plants, have been less than their demand but according to available information this shortfall has, more or less, been off-set by supplies from mini-steel plants whose production during the year has been considerably stepped up.

(b) Keeping in view the present availability position and the necessity to equitably distribute the billets from the integrated steel plants, it is not possible to increase the supplies from this source to the re-rolling units in Mandi Gobindgarh immediately. As and when the availability of billets improves, their additional requirements will certainly be considered along with others.

Action against Industrial Reconstruction Corporation for diversion of P.F.

719. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action have since been taken by Government against the management of Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India for diversion of provident fund amounts of workers for purposes other than those for which it is meant by the industrial units;

(b) whether the committee set up by the Provident Fund Authorities has also expressed deep concern at the huge accumulation of provident fund arrears by the units managed by IRCI and if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps Government propose to take against the management concerned for this violation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINGHA): (a) Does not arise as no such diversion of provident fund amounts has been reported.

(b) The Regional Committee, Employees' Provident Fund, West Bengal in its meeting held on 5th November, 1976, had taken note of the accumulation of provident fund arrears and decided to set up a sub-committee to look into the bottlenecks hampering the expeditious realisation of arrears.

(c) and (d). A statement showing the action taken against the defaulting units is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-2816/78].

Abolition of visa and passport with Pakistan

720. SHRI D. AMAT:

SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

SHRI D. N. TIWARY:

SHRI MADHAVRAO
SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to abolish visa and passport system with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and what is the response from Pakistan in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) and (b). While the Government feel that progressively, along with improvement of relations, travel between India and Pakistan should be made easier, we do not have any proposal at present under consideration, to abolish the existing passport and visa system.

Opening of P.C.Os. in backward and Hilly areas of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh

721. SHRI D. AMAT:

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA
BOSE ALLURI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open 15,000 public call offices during the next five years in backward and hilly areas; and

(b) if so, the number of call offices proposed to be opened in the current year and the number of offices proposed to be opened in back-

ward areas of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) It is proposed to open 15,000 long distance public call offices during the period 1978-83 in the entire country including the backward and hilly areas.

(b) During the current year, it is proposed to open 2,000 Public Call Offices in the country. Out of these 25 are likely to be opened in the backward areas of Orissa and 250 in the backward areas of Andhra Pradesh.

Unfavourable market position of Iron Ore and Manganese

722. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of unfavourable foreign market position the mining operations in Iron Ore and manganese mine have received severe set back during the current year;

(b) if so, furnish details of production of manganese ore and iron ore during 1977-78 and upto September 78 separately against the physical targets and how does it compare with the corresponding periods;

(c) the estimated number of workers rendered unemployed as a result of slump in manganese and iron ore mining activities; and

(d) details of steps taken to provide them alternate employment?

* THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). Comparative figures available calendar year-wise only in respect of production of iron ore and manganese ore

in the country as a whole are given below:—

(Lakh tonnes)

Mineral	1976	1977	(Apr.-Sept.)	(Apr.-Sept.)
			1977	1978
(i) Iron Ore	438.68	424.82	314.55	274.23
(ii) Manganese Ore	18.35	18.65	14.40	11.68

While the set-back in production of iron ore is attributable mainly to recession in the world steel industry, the production of manganese ore has suffered some decline only during the period, April-September 1978, mainly due to non-availability of explosives, intermittent power supply and, to some extent, lack of market for low grade ore. It may be added that since 31st March, 1973, there has been complete ban on export of high grade manganese ore from this country.

(c) and (d). As a result of unfavourable foreign market situation in manganese and iron ore, no worker directly employed by National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., or Manganese Ore India Limited has been thrown out of employment. However, 1828 labourers employed by float ore contractors in NMDC were retrenched on expiry of their contracts.

As regards private sector mines, no information has been received regarding retrenchment of workers as a result of this cause.

Family Planning Target

723. SHRI VASANT SATHE:

SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the State-wise targets set for 1978-79 for various Family

Planning Programme elements and the percentage of targets achieved;

(b) whether it is a fact that Family Planning Programme has received a big set back during the past 18 months and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of action plan formulated to achieve the modest targets set for the current year; and

(d) the new incentives proposed to check the birth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The required information is given in Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2817/78].

(b) Yes Sir. This is mainly due to the fear still lingering in the minds of people about the alleged use of coercion and compulsion in the implementation of the Programme during the period of emergency.

(c) and (d). In order to revitalise the Programme and also to achieve the levels of performance set for various family planning methods, the Government of India have taken various steps. One of the important measures relates to the issuing of instructions to the State Governments/Union Territories and other implementing agencies to assign targets to the Medical Officers and other field workers entrusted with the implementation of the Programme. The Prime Minister has made an appeal to the State Governments/Union Territories and also to the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and voluntary organisations to accept this programme as a national programme requiring

vigorous efforts from all sections of society to check population growth. The States/Union Territories have also been asked to gear up the Programme by utilising all media at their disposal. More orientation training camps for village opinion leaders are also being arranged throughout the country. Another step taken to boost up the programme is the organisation of periodical Family Welfare Fortnights throughout the country. The States/Union Territories have been asked to consider holding of small sterilisation camps during the Family Welfare Fortnights for which additional amount of Rs. 5/- per case of sterilisation has been sanctioned. The Programme was recently reviewed by the Joint Conference of Central Council of Health and Central Family Welfare for more effective implementation.

दिल्ली क्लाय मिल में श्रमिकों की संख्या

724. श्री सरत कार : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली क्लाय मिल्स, आजाद मार्केट में कुल कितने श्रमिक हैं ;

(ख) उनमें से कुल कितने श्रमिक अस्थायी हैं और कितने श्रमिक स्थायी हैं ;

(ग) कुल कितने श्रमिक हैं जिन्हें अभी तक स्थायी नहीं किया गया है यद्यपि उनकी सेवावधि दो वर्ष से अधिक की हो गई है ; और

(घ) लिमिटेड कंपनियों में काम करने वाले ऐसे कर्मचारियों को जिनकी सेवावधि दो वर्ष से अधिक की हो गई है, स्थायी करने के बारे में सरकार की नीति का धोरा क्या है ?

श्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री लारंग साह) : (क) से (ग) . दिल्ली प्रशासन द्वारा उपलब्ध कराई गई सूचना के अनुसार दिल्ली क्लाय मिल्स में अस्थायी और नियमित श्रमिकों की संख्या इस प्रकार है :—

(1) कुल श्रमिकों की संख्या/नैमित्तिक
नियमित/अस्थायी कुल

(31-10-1978 को) 6,881 301 7,182

(2) जो श्रमिक अभी तक स्थायी नहीं किए गए हैं उनकी कुल संख्या 301 है। इन 301 अस्थायी/नैमित्तिक कर्मचारियों में से केवल एक कर्मचारी द्वारा 2 वर्ष से अधिक की सेवा पूरी किए जाने की सूचना मिली है।

(घ) ये मामले स्थायी आदेशों के अधीन आते हैं जिन्हें दिल्ली क्लाय मिल्स जैसे प्रतिष्ठानों के लिए औद्योगिक रोजगार (स्थायी आदेश) अधिनियम, 1946 के अन्तर्गत सक्षम प्राधिकारियों द्वारा सत्यापित कराना आवश्यक है। ऐसे मामलों में असन्तुष्ट कर्मचारी के प्रतिनिधि सक्षम प्राधिकारियों के समक्ष औद्योगिक विवाद उठा सकते हैं।

जारी किये गये पार-पत्रों की संख्या

725. श्री सरत कार :

श्री सुरेश ना सुमन :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में अक्टूबर, 1978 तक वर्षवार कुल कितने पार-पत्र जारी किये गये ; और

(ख) वर्ष 1977-78 में कितने पार-पत्र रह किये गये ?

विदेश मंत्रालय राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमरेन्द्र कुम्हार) :

(क) (i) नवम्बर, 1975 से
अक्टूबर, 1976 5,44,291

(ii) नवम्बर, 1976 से
अक्टूबर, 1977 8,15,228

(iii) नवम्बर, 1977 से
अक्टूबर, 1978 12,68,232

(ख) इस संबंध में चूंकि भारत तथा विदेश के अनेक प्राधिकरणों से सम्पर्क करना होगा ; इसलिए सूचना एकत्र करके सदन की मेज पर रख दी जाएगी।

Verification of Membership of Central Trade Union Organisations

726. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the general verification of membership of Central Trade Union Organisations is done from time to time in order to give representation to labour on International and National Tripartite bodies and conferences;

(b) whether the latest varified figures of membership of such organizations are available as on 31st December, 1968 and fresh verification is ordered as on 31st December, 1977;

(c) if so, the reasons of delay in ordering such verification; and

(d) now at what stage the work of verification stands and when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a)
and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Verification of membership ordered as on 31-12-1970 and 31-12-1972 could not be completed due to non-submission of claimed membership figures by certain central organisations;

(d) While some organisations have submitted their claims, some others have raised certain issues which are yet to be sorted out.

U.S. Base on Micronesia

727. SHRI P. M. SAYED:

SHRI RAMACHANDRAN

KADANNAPPALLI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Government's attention has been drawn to the press reports in the *Hindustan Times* dated 30th September, 1978 in which it has been published that U.S. intends to establish a number of military bases on the Islands in the trust territory of Micronesia to bring Asian countries within striking distance;

(b) if so, whether Government has examined these reports; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government are not aware of any evidence to indicate that the U.S. Government intends to establish a number of military bases in the trust territory of Micronesia in the Pacific Ocean where U.S.A. already has military facilities. According to the information conveyed by the

Permanent Representative of U.S.A. to U.N. in April, 1978, negotiations are in progress between the U.S. Government and the representatives of Micronesia and other islands in the area for "Free Association" status which, while granting the islands complete internal self-government, would leave responsibility for defence and foreign affairs with the U.S. In these circumstances, Government of India are observing the situation.

Steel Production

728. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has initiated series of measures to boost steel production in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken;

(c) in how many cases action has been initiated; and

(d) the total production likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The following important measures have been taken to step up production of steel in the country:—

(i) Close and constant liaison is being maintained with the Ministry of Energy, DVC authorities, Electricity Boards, coal supplying agencies and the Railways so as to secure maximum supplies of power and good coking coal.

(ii) Orders have been placed for the import of one million tonnes of low-ash coking coal in order to supplement indigenous supplies.

(iii) Schemes for augmentation of captive power generation capacity at Durgapur and Bokaro Steel Plants to the extent of 300 M.W. have been sanctioned. This will help meet the

present difficulties on account of power shortage and frequent interruptions/fluctuations.

(iv) Early completion of current expansion programmes of Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants to a capacity of 4.0 million ingot tonnes each.

(v) Setting up of a plant at Rourkela to produce 37,500 tonnes of CRGO and 36,000 tonnes of CRNO sheets per annum to meet the requirements of electrical industry has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 109.80 crores.

(vi) Completion of first phase of Salem Steel Plant to produce 32,000 tonnes of cold rolled stainless steel sheets/strips sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 126.81 crores.

(vii) Provision of additional melting facilities at Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur, to increase the existing capacity from 1,00,000 ingot tonnes of alloy steels to 1,60,000 tonnes has been sanctioned. A proposal to increase the capacity further to 2,60,000 tonnes is presently under consideration.

(viii) Certain proposals for the incorporation of new technological innovations/improvements at Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants so as to increase their productivity with only marginal investments are presently under consideration.

(ix) A proposal to increase the capacity of Bokaro Steel Plant further to 4.75 million ingot tonnes is presently under consideration.

(x) Increasing emphasis on Research and Development Projects for ensuring higher productivity in the steel plants.

(xi) Proposals for setting up three shore-based export-oriented steel plants are also under consideration.

Foreign Minister's visit abroad

729. **PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:**

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) the countries he visited officially between 15th August, 1978 and 15th November, 1978;

(b) reasons for the said visits;

(c) agreements arrived at and/or benefits accrued on account of the said visits;

(d) the total expenses incurred on these visits; and

(e) whether one or more official/non-official persons accompanied him to one or more of the said visits and if so, the full details thereof including the names, designation, etc. of the said persons and the entire expenses incurred on them by Government?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) to (c). The information is given in the statement laid on the table of the House. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT—2818/78]

(d) and (e). While the names and designations of the persons who accompanied the Minister of External Affairs during his visits are given in the enclosed statement, information on expenses incurred is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

National Health Policy

730. **PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate and announce a National Health Policy soon;

(b) if so, when and how and with what broad ingredients or features; and

(c) if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c). A draft paper on National Health Policy was circulated and considered in the Fifth Joint Conference of the Central Council for Health and Central Family Welfare Council, which held its meeting in New Delhi from 6th to 8th October, 1978. The Council resolved that the draft paper on National Health Policy may be circulated for inviting comments and opinions. The matter will be further considered by the Council in the light of the comments/opinions and views received from various sources after circulation.

Strikes, Lock-outs and loss of Man-days

731. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR
SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA
BOSE ALLURI:
SHRI D. AMAT:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of official and non-official strikes and lock-outs which took place in the country for the period, April, 1977 to October, 1978;

(b) main reasons for such strikes;

(c) the total number of man-days so lost;

(d) steps taken by the Government to intervene and/or arbitrate in the disputes leading to such strikes, etc.;

(e) main results of the said steps; and

(f) comparable figures for the loss of man-days for the earlier period, April, 1975 to October, 1976?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (c) and (f). A statement prepared on the basis of available information, for the period April, 1977 to August, 1978 and comparable figures for April to August, 1976 is attached showing the number of strikes and lock-outs which took place in the country and the main reasons for such strikes and the number of man-days lost due to these strikes and lock-outs. Information for the months of September and October, 1978 is not yet available.

(d) and (e). Government is making efforts to improve the industrial climate in the country with the help of the Industrial Relations Machinery both at the Centre and in the States. Wherever necessary, Government is intervening in disputes in the Central Sphere with a view to promoting settlement. As a result of these efforts, industrial disputes in certain cases have either been avoided or resolved.

Statement

Number of strikes and lock-outs, main reasons of the strikes and number of man-days lost due to strikes and lock-outs during April, 1977 to August, 1978 (P) and April, 1975 to August, 1976

Period	Number of Strikes	Number of Lock-outs	Total number of disputes	Main reasons of strikes	Number of man-days lost due to strikes and lock-outs
April, 1977 to August, 1978	3,704	549	4,253	Demands for wages and allowances, personnel matters and bonus,	36.80 million
April, 1975 to August, 1976	1,341	334	2,175	—	16.90 million.

(P)=Provisional. Figures for 1977 and 1978 are based on returns received in the Labour Bureau upto November 2, 1978 and November 15, 1978 respectively.

Increase in Price of Post Card

732. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the recent increase in postage of the post cards from 15 to 20 paise in the case of printed matter appearing on the card has created an extra financial burden on the poor and the middle class who use the post card the maximum and which has further created confusion and uncertainty because of different interpretations of the rule regarding printed matter by different postal authorities in India:

(b) if so, whether Government propose to abolish the said increased rate thereby restoring the postage charge of the post card to 15 paise;

(c) if not, why not; and

(d) whether the said increase has given a net additional amount to the Government in the current financial year and if so, how much is it and for what purpose will it be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) The recent increase in postage of the post cards in the case of printed matter has not created an extra financial burden on the poor and middle class, as their mode of communication is mainly handwritten or at times typewritten which does not attract the raised rate. Detailed instructions have been issued explaining what constitutes printed matter in a post card and, as such, there should be no room for confusion or uncertainty.

(b) to (c). No, Sir. There is no proposal to abolish the increased rate in case of post cards containing printed matter as the increase will be borne more by the business and commercial organisations. The estimated net additional amount in the current financial year, is about Rs. 49 lakhs per annum.

Number of M.Ps. visited China

733. SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Members of Parliament have visited China during 1978; and

(b) the capacity in which these M.Ps. visited China and the purpose for which the visits were undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) and (b). As far as this Ministry is aware, the following Members of Parliament have visited China during 1978:

- (1) Shri Charanjeet Chanana.
- (2) Shri Subramaniam Swamy.
- (3) Shri P. Ramamoorthy.

The above visits were undertaken by the MPs concerned in their private and individual capacities and were not sponsored by the Government of India.

Functioning of S.T.D. in J & K

734. SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that STD System in Jammu and Kashmir has become a frequent source of great inconvenience for its non-functioning; and

(b) if so, what steps Government envisage to take to remedy the defects in the functioning of S.T.D.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) and (b). The performance of S.T.D. System in Jammu and Kashmir is, in general, satisfactory. However, for meeting traffic increase, the work of augmentation of circuits is already in hand. A wide band microwave system for the route Jullundur-Srinagar/Jammu is under installation. A Trunk Automatic exchange

has already been commissioned at Jammu.

No. of Regional Passport Offices

735: SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Passport Offices opened during 1977-78;

(b) the total number of such offices to be opened during 1978-79; and

(c) whether Government have decided not to open an office in Srinagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDN): (a) Four new Passport Offices have been opened.

(i) Bangalore (12-6-1978)

(ii) Kozhikode (17-6-1978)

(iii) Jaipur (22-9-1978)

(iv) Bhopal (17-10-1978)

(b) Five more offices are proposed to be opened before the end of financial year 1978 at (i) Bhubaneswar (ii) Patna (iii) Gauhati (iv) Srinagar and (v) Jullundur or Ludhiana. It has also been decided to open a Passport Office in Himachal Pradesh in the early part of the next financial year.

(c) No, Sir. As stated in response to part (a) of this Question, it is proposed to open a Passport Office at Srinagar before the end of the current financial year.

Import of Steel

736. SHRIMATI PARAVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has decided to import some items of steel;

(b) whether SAIL has been exporting the same items which it is importing;

(c) the answer to part (a) & (b) be in the affirmative what are the details and what is the difference between the prices of items which we are exporting and importing; and

(d) what is the reason for exporting the items in which we are facing a shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, in some items.

(c) HR coils and CR sheets are being exported and certain quantities are also being imported during the current year. It is not in the commercial interest to disclose the prices.

(d) Although these categories are in short supply now exports are being made to honour the commitments already entered into earlier.

Expansion of ESIS

737. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high power sub-committee has recommended extension of the Employees' State Insurance Scheme to weaker sections of workers; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA): (a) A sub-committee was constituted by the ESIC to undertake an in-depth study of various provisions of the ESI Act and to make recommendations for changes, if any. The Committee has submitted its report to the Corporation, which is expected to consider at its next meeting.

(b) Does not arise at this stage.

Mortality among Pregnant Women

738. SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of criminal and clandestine abortions cause considerable mortality and morbidity among pregnant women;

(b) whether it is a fact that women and unmarried girls die of an abortion mostly done by quacks, often done in dark rooms by incompetent midwives and ill-trained nurses; and

(c) the steps Government proposed to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). The Committee to study the question of "Legalisation of abortion", was of the opinion that may inducer abortions are conducted by unqualified people and consequently high mortality rate prevails. The Government agrees with this view.

(c) The Government has already taken the following steps to tackle the problem:—

(1) The MTP Act, 1971 has been enforced throughout the country. This Act besides other things provides for termination of pregnancy at hospitals established or maintained by Government.

(2) The M.T.P. rules framed in the year 1972 were revised in the year 1975 to overcome the procedural difficulties in the proper implementation of the programme.

(3) A training programme for doctors working in the hospitals and P.H.C., in M.T.P. techniques is being conducted by 132 institutions in the country. 5029 doctors have been trained under this programme upto June, 1978.

(4) Over 2600 institutions are providing services for M.T.P. in the country.

(5) State Governments have been provided assistance by way of equipment and funds for strengthening M.T.P. services under various internationally aided programme.

Set back in Steel Production

739. SHRI K. PRADHANI:

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI D. D. DESAI :

SHRI ROBIN SEN :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the current floods affecting coal output besides disrupting rail movement caused a setback to steel production in many plants; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the damage caused as a result of floods recently and whether there has been power problems also to add to the loss of production of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Durgapur Steel Plant and the Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur, damage was caused to electrical equipments and plant and equipment of majority of the underground system as well as to a large number of buildings and civil structures, culverts, roads etc. in the plants and the townships. A large quantity of oils from oil cellars and gear boxes etc. of the submerged equipment was wasted and resulted in contamination. In financial terms, the loss at Durgapur Steel Plant is estimated at Rs. 75 lakhs and at Rs. 7.5 lakhs in the case of Alloy Steels Plant.

The heavy rains and floods also affected the coalfields of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. and Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. and caused disruption in rail movement and coal supplies. Consequently, the oven pushing rates at the steel plants had to be curtailed drastically and regulated at very low levels to match the

supplies and stocks of coking coal at the steel plants. The production of steel was further affected adversely by shortage of power. It has been estimated that the total loss of production of saleable steel at the integrated steel plants on account of floods, short supply of coking coal and shortage of power during the months of September and October, 1978, was well over one lakh tonnes.

प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र

740. श्री बी० जी० हांडे : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1982-83 तक देश का प्रत्येक व्यक्ति प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों के अन्तर्गत आ जायगा ; और

(ख) क्या उक्त प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों से महाराष्ट्र की जनता को भी लाभ होगा ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) जी हां ।

31-3-1978 की स्थिति के अनुसार 5,400 प्राइमरी हेल्थ सेंटर 5,258 इलाकों में स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं प्रदान कर रहे हैं। संगोष्ठित न्यूनतम आवश्यकता कार्यक्रम में 1987-88 तक प्रत्येक 50,000 जनसंख्या के लिए एक एक प्राइमरी हेल्थ सेंटर और प्रत्येक 5,000 के लिए एक एक उप-केन्द्र खोलने का विचार है ।

(ख) जी हां ।

नासिक जिले में डाकघर

741 श्री बी० जी० हांडे : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या महाराष्ट्र में वहां की जनसंख्या के अनुपात से डाकघरों तथा उप-डाकघरों की संख्या कम है ;

(ख) क्या लोगों को डाक सुविधायें प्राप्त करने के लिये लगभग 2-1/2 किलोमीटर दूर जाना पड़ता है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार स्थानीय लोगों की कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये और अधिक डाकघर तथा उप-डाकघर खोलने का है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कितने प्रतिशत डाकघर खोलने का विचार है तथा कब तक ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद मुखर्जी) : (क) जी नहीं । नासिक

जिले में सभी प्रकार के 494 डाकघर हैं, जबकि पूरे महाराष्ट्र में 9896 डाकघर हैं । नासिक जिले में 79 उप-डाकघर हैं, जबकि महाराष्ट्र में 1729 उप-डाकघर हैं । नासिक जिले में प्रत्येक डाकघर औसतन 4816 व्यक्तियों को डाक सेवा देता है, जबकि महाराष्ट्र में प्रत्येक डाकघर औसतन 5058 व्यक्तियों को डाक सेवा देता है ।

(ख) देहाती इलाकों में लोगों को डाक सुविधायें प्राप्त करने के लिये 3 किलो मीटर तक चलना पड़ सकता है, क्योंकि विभाग के मान-दंडों के अनुसार देहाती इलाकों में मौजूदा डाकघरों से 3 किलोमीटर से अधिक की दूरी पर डाकघर खोले जाते हैं ।

(ग) और (घ) जी हां । वर्ष 1978-79 के दौरान 50 डाकघर खोलने का प्रस्ताव है, जिनमें 5 उप-डाकघर शामिल हैं । देहाती इलाकों में 45 डाकघर खोले जायेंगे और गैर गैर डाकघर शहरी इलाकों में खोले जायेंगे ।

उत्तर प्रदेश में 3 से 6 हजार की जनसंख्या वाले गांव, जहां कोई डाकघर नहीं है

742. श्री राजेन्द्र कुमार शर्मा : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश में 3 से 6 हजार की जनसंख्या वाले ऐसे कितने गांव हैं जहां कोई डाकघर नहीं है ;

(ख) इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) ऐसे गांवों से कितने आवेदनपत्र सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं ; और

(घ) रामपुर जिले से ऐसे कितने आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त हुए हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद मुखर्जी) : (क) से (घ) . अपेक्षित सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और इसे सभा पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

उत्तर प्रदेश के रामपुर जिले में टेलीग्राफ और टंक काल की सुविधा वाला डाकघर

743. श्री राजेन्द्र कुमार शर्मा : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश के रामपुर जिले में डाकघरों और उप-डाकघरों की संख्या क्या है ;

(ख) क्या प्रत्येक डाकघर में टेलीग्राम और टंक काल की सुविधायें उपलब्ध हैं ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो कितने डाकघरों में ऐसी सुविधायें उपलब्ध नहीं हैं ; और

(घ) नए डाकघर खोलने के लिए यत एक वर्ष के दौरान सरकार को कितने आवेदनपत्र प्राप्त हुए हैं और कितने आवेदन पत्रों को स्वीकार किया गया ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि साह सुब्बेय्य साय): (क) (i) मुख्य डाकघर 1

(ii) उप-डाकघर 20

(iii) शाखा डाकघर 73

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) 13 उप-डाकघरों और 70 शाखा डाकघरों में तार और टंक काल सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है ।

(घ) पिछले एक साल के दौरान रामपुर जिले में डाकघर खोलने के लिए 3 अज्ञिया मिली थीं और इनमें से एक स्वीकृत की गई थी ।

Kashmir

744. SHRI A. R. BADRINARAYAN:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-
SHEKHAR MURTHY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan raised Kashmir question in U.N. Assembly on 4th October, 1978;

(b) if so, how far this is true;

(c) whether India objected to this; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) and (b). In his statement during the general debate in the UN General Assembly on 4th October, 1978, the Pakistan delegate, Mr. Agha Shahi, made a reference to Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) and (d). Our position on the subject is well known and has been repeatedly made clear that the whole of Jammu and Kashmir is constitutionally and legally an integral part of India.

स्वयं लोहे के संयंत्र की स्थापना करना

745. श्री राम सेवक हजारी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या स्वयं लोहे के एक संयंत्र की स्थापना करने के लिए संयुक्त श्रम-श्रमीरात के साथ किसी समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसकी शर्तें क्या हैं; और

(ग) भारत को उससे कितना लाभ होगा ।

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कड़िया मण्डा): (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Separate Postal and Telecommunication Circle by H. P. Government

746. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 176 on the 27th July, 1978 regarding postal circle for H.P. and state:

(a) whether the Himachal Government have made available suitable accommodation for opening separate postal and tele-communication circle in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, by when the P&T circle will be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHEDEO SAI): (a) No suitable accommodation has so far been made available by the Himachal Pradesh Government at Simla.

(b) Soon after suitable accommodation is made available by the H.P. Government at Simla.

Non-Cooperation of Trade Unions in Verification of Membership

747. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are verifying the membership claims of different central trade unions;

(b) if so, whether trade unions have refused to cooperate with Government on this;

(c) the criteria of verification;

(d) whether these unions have submitted any membership claims; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the central organisations have raised certain issues which are yet to be sorted out.

(c) Verification is based on paid membership of the trade unions with reference to membership registers, subscription counter-foils etc. supported by sample spot verification.

(d) Four organisations have submitted their membership claims.

(e) The organisations which have submitted their claims are:

(1) Indian National Trade Union Congress

(2) Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh

(3) National Labour Organisation

(4) United Trade Union Congress (Lenin Sarani)

Heart Patients in Bihar

748. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the largest number of heart patients admitted to All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi are from Bihar;

(b) the number of patients belonging to Bihar among the heart patients admitted during the last two years; and

(c) whether the Central Government will conduct a survey to ascertain the reasons for such a high incidence of heart trouble cases in Bihar and the steps proposed to be taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The largest number of patients admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi are from Delhi and adjoining areas. However, the largest group of patients is from Bihar.

(b) The number of cardiac patients belonging to Bihar and admitted during the last two years is as under:

Year	Total No. of patients admitted	No. of patients from Bihar.
1976	2083	163*
1977	2353	205*

(c) There is no proposal to conduct a survey on incidence of heart diseases in any State of India.

*These statistics may not be entirely correct as number of patients give local addresses only at the time of admission.

बीड़ी श्रमिक कल्याण निधि

749. श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बीड़ी श्रमिक कल्याण निधि के लिये भारत सरकार द्वारा प्रति वर्ष कितनी राशि का अंशदान दिया जा रहा है; और

(ख) इस राशि के उपयोग के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या नीति अपनाई गई है और सरकार ने इस दिशा में क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

श्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सारंग साय) : (क) सरकार द्वारा बीड़ी श्रमिक कल्याण निधि में इस प्रकार का कोई अंशदान नहीं किया जाता है । तथापि, बीड़ियों के विनिर्माण के लिए गोदामों से दिए जाने वाले तम्बाकू पर लगाए गए 25 पैसे/किलोग्राम के उपकर से निधि बनायी जाती है । उपकर से मिलने वाली कुल राशि लगभग 2 करोड़ रुपये प्रति वर्ष है ।

(ख) निधि का उद्देश्य बीड़ी श्रमिकों तथा उनके परिवारों के हित के लिए विभिन्न कल्याण उपायों की व्यवस्था करना है । सबसे अधिक ध्यान चिकित्सा तथा स्वास्थ्य देख-रेख सम्बन्धी सुविधाओं के विकास पर दिया जा रहा है । अभी तक विभिन्न राज्यों के लिए 29 चिकित्सा एकक (जिनमें 10 पलंगों वाला एक अस्पताल शामिल है) की मंजूरी दी गई है । इसके अतिरिक्त, गृह निर्माण सम्बन्धी आर्थिक सहायता तथा शैक्षणिक छात्र-वृत्तियाँ प्रदान करने के लिए योजनायें चालू की गई हैं ।

शाहदरा टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज का विस्तार

750. श्री गोबिन्द मुन्डा : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यमुना पार क्षेत्र शाहदरा का टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज शाहदरा को आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए अपर्याप्त है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो शाहदरा टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज का कब विस्तार किया जाएगा; और

(ग) शाहदरा टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज के विस्तार की योजना का व्यौरा क्या है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि साह सुखदेव साय) : (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) टेलीफोन एक्सचेंजों में 1600 लाइनों का विस्तार का काम चल रहा है । आशा है कि यह कार्य वित्तीय वर्ष के अन्त तक पूरा हो जाएगा ।

(ग) शाहदरा टेलीफोन प्रणाली का विस्तार तीन चरणों में करने की योजना है, अर्थात् (i) पूर्वी शाहदरा का 1600 लाइनों के विस्तार का संस्थापन कार्य चल रहा है और आशा है कि वित्तीय वर्ष के अन्त तक ये चालू हो पाएंगी (ii) पूर्वी शाहदरा एक्सचेंज में 1000 लाइनों का अतिरिक्त विस्तार वर्ष 1981-82 में करने का कार्यक्रम है; और (iii) नई इमारत में 6000 लाइनों के एक नए एक्सचेंज की स्थापना जिसे वर्ष 1982-83 में चालू करने का अस्थायी कार्यक्रम है ।

Seminar on Rural Communications

751. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 10 day seminar was organised by Government in collaboration with International Telecommunications Union in September, 1978 and the United Nations Development Programme on use of new technology and cheaper methods for providing rural communications;

(b) the details of important aspects/problems of rural Telecommunications discussed in the seminar;

(c) details of schemes formulated alongwith State-wise assistance and physical details of the programme proposed to be implemented for developing rural telecommunication in the country; and

(d) the details of foreign assistance-technical and financial likely to be available for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Seminar discussed the following aspects of rural telecommunications with a special reference to developing countries:—

(i) Identification of special problems of rural telecommunications.

(ii) Alternative solution for reducing costs and improving efficiency of local telephone facilities in low-density rural areas.

(iii) Alternative solutions for provision of low cost higher reliability transmission facilities for telecommunications in the rural areas.

(iv) Problems relating to physical plants and their protection from lightning and induction from high tension parallelism.

(v) Problems of providing suitable power supplies in remote areas where no regular power supply system exists.

The Seminar brought out that the problems of development of telecommunications in rural areas in developing countries differ considerably from those in the developed countries. Most of the solutions applied for developed countries for extending the telephone and telegraph facilities in the rural areas cannot be applied directly to the developing countries and that considerable amount of research and development work will have to be undertaken to work out low cost high reliability switching and transmission systems for the rural areas.

(c) and (d). The Rural Telecommunications Seminar concentrated on the identification of special problems and finding technical solutions to the problems of development of telecommunications in rural areas. It was not used for discussing specific plans of the participating countries or any foreign assistance, Technical or financial, in this regard.

However, the Department has drawn up proposals for opening 15,000 Long Distance Public Call Offices and combined Telegraph Offices in the rural areas in the country during the 6th Plan Period. It is further proposed to expand the telephone facilities in about 2,400 villages by replacing the L.D. Public Call Offices by telephone exchanges. Foreign Exchange requirements for the above proposals shall be met from the normal foreign exchange reserves including Bilateral and Multilateral credits, loans and grants.

Social Security Schemes for Railway Posters and Vendors

752. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated Social Security Schemes for Railway Porters and Vendors and other categories of employees;

(b) if so, furnish important details of the schemes formulated;

(c) how soon these schemes are proposed to be implemented; and

(d) the details of steps taken for early implementation of these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA): (a) to (d). The existing social security schemes e.g. Provident Fund and Health Insurance are applicable to wage earners subject to the coverage described in the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. For the present, the Government's endeavour is to extend the benefits of these laws to more wage earners.

Shortage of Steel

753. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of industrial units using steel as a raw material are facing serious crisis in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and other States due to acute shortage of steel;

(b) if so, furnish State-wise details of the estimated number of units affected by steel shortage in the country giving details of monthly requirement State-wise of the small scale units for steel for the last six months vis-a-vis the actual steel supplied to these units;

(c) whether the association of such units have represented central authority in this regard and details thereof; and

(d) the details of measures taken to meet the requirement of steel for the small scale industrial unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Presumably the reference is to the industrial units in the small scale sector. The requirements of the small scale units are to be met by the Small Industries Corporations of the States concerned. Supplies to these Corporations have been considerably stepped up as compared to the previous years. In spite of this, some Corporations, like those of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, are finding it difficult to meet the requirements of their units, particularly in the case of those iron and steel items which are in short supply.

(b) State-wise details about the units affected and the actual demand and supply to individual units are not available with Government.

(c) Representations from some Small Industries Corporations and associations of small scale units have been received, mainly about non-supply of material to the individual units.

(d) During the current financial year, about 4,50,000 tonnes of pig iron and 4,40,000 tonnes of steel are planned to be despatched on a priority basis to the Small Industries Corporation from the integrated steel plants as against 2,25,000 tonnes of pig iron and 1,76,000 tonnes of steel despatched in 1977-78. Periodical meetings are held by the Iron and Steel Controller with the producers to review the supplies. Subject to over-all availability, the producers try to meet the requirements of the small scale units holding essentiality certificates and those manufacturing agricultural implements. Meetings are also held with the representatives of the SSI Corporations to sort out the problems.

R.P.O. for Himachal Pradesh

754. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5145 on 24th August, 1978 regarding opening of a Sub-Regional Passport office in Himachal Pradesh and state whether a departure in the criterion required for opening a passport office is proposed to be made in respect of Himachal Pradesh being a Hilly State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): Government of India have reviewed the matter and have decided to open a Passport Office in Himachal Pradesh to alleviate difficulties of Passport applicants from the State. Action to open the office will be taken in consultation with the Government of Himachal Pradesh and it is expected that the office will be opened in the early part of the next financial year.

Implementation of Recommendations of Wage Board and Payment of P.F. to Workers by Private Iron Ore Mine Owners

755. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of workers directly employed by each of the private iron ore mine owners in the country who supply iron ore for export purpose;

(b) the number of contractors in each of these mines and the categories of work handled by them;

(c) whether all the mine owners have fully implemented the recommendations of the Iron Ore Wage Board and paid provident fund dues to the workers; and

(d) the names of those concerns (mine owners) who have so far not implemented the recommendations of the Wage Board and failed to pay provident fund dues and the steps

Government have taken in regard thereto and result achieved?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VERMA): (a) to (d). Information is being collected.

Communications Link with Western Africa

756. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the absence of means of communications, cordial relations could not be established between India and Western Africa; and

(b) if so, the time by which means of communications are proposed to be established and expanded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) and (b) Adequate satellite communication facilities exist between India and Western Africa through switched services via London. Besides, a direct satellite telephone link exists between India and Nigeria.

India's relations with all countries in that region are cordial.

भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री को पासपोर्ट देना

757. श्री गंगा भक्त सिंह : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) को यूनाइटेड किंगडम जाने के लिये पासपोर्ट दिया गया है जबकि देश के विभिन्न न्यायालयों में उनके विरुद्ध कई मामले चल रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं तथा उनकी इस विदेश यात्रा का खर्च कौन उठा रहा है ; और

(ग) उनके दौरे को प्रायोजित करने वाले संगठन का नाम क्या है ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी) :

(क) श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी को, न्यायालय से विदेश जाने की अनुमति का आदेश प्रस्तुत करने

पर, 25 अक्टूबर, 1978 को राजनयिक पासपोर्ट जारी किया गया था जो तीन महीने के लिए वैध था। उन्होंने विदेश मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी की गई अधिसूचना जो० एस० भार०-293(ई) दिनांक 14 अप्रैल, 1976 की शर्तों के अनुरूप बचनपत्र भी प्रस्तुत किया था।

(ख) और (ग) . श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी ने भारतीय भोवरसीज कांग्रेस, यूनाइटेड किंगडम के अध्यक्ष एवं महासचिव को प्रायोजना घोषणा प्रस्तुत की थी जिसमें इस कांग्रेस के तथा उनके निजी भ्रातृपुत्र के रूप में इस संस्था द्वारा आयोजित श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू के जन्मदिवस समारोहों में भाग लेने और भाषण देने तथा यूनाइटेड किंगडम में बसे भारतीय समुदाय से मिलने के लिए उनकी 11 नवम्बर, 1978 में दो यात्रा की यूनाइटेड किंगडम की यात्रा प्रायोजित की गई थी। भारतीय भोवरसीज कांग्रेस, यूनाइटेड किंगडम ने श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी के भार वापस आने का तथा यूनाइटेड किंगडम में उनके प्रवास के दौरान उनका खर्च वहन करने का भार भी अपने ऊपर लिया था।

छठी योजना में डाकघर खोलना तथा सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन लगाना :

758. श्री गंगा भक्त सिंह : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान सरकार द्वारा कितने डाकघर खोले जाने और सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन लगाये जाने का विचार है ; और

(ख) वर्ष 1978-79 के दौरान कितने जिलों में डाकघर और सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन कार्य करना आरम्भ कर देंगे ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुखदेव साय) : (क) छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान देश के देहाती इलाकों में 25,000 डाकघर और लम्बी दूरी के 15,000 सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर खोलने का प्रस्ताव है।

(ख) जिन जिलों में 1978-79 के दौरान डाकघर और सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर खोले जाएंगे, उनकी सही सही संख्या निकाली जा रही है और यह सूचना सभा-मटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

आयुर्वेदिक संस्थान

759. श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माधुर : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न राज्यों में इस समय कितने सरकारी तथा गैर-सरकारी आयुर्वेदिक संस्थान हैं ;

(ब) आयुर्वेदिक शिक्षा का प्राधुनिकीकरण तथा मानकीकरण करने के लिए सरकार की योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) आयुर्वेदिक शिक्षा के प्रसार के लिए विभिन्न राज्यों की अनुदान के रूप में कितनी राशि दी गई है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगबन्दी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) सरकारी तथा गैर-सरकारी आयुर्वेदिक संस्थाओं की राज्यवार संख्या का विवरण संलग्न है ।

(ख) आयुर्वेदीय शिक्षा के स्तर में सुधार लाने तथा इसे समान रूप से कार्यान्वित करने के लिए भारतीय केन्द्रीय चिकित्सा परिषद् ने आयुर्वेद की स्नातक पूर्व शिक्षा के लिए पाठ्यचर्या और पाठ्यक्रम तैयार किये हैं । केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा विधिवत अनुमोदित पाठ्यचर्या और पाठ्यक्रम के सभी विश्वविद्यालयों, बोर्डों तथा भारतीय चिकित्सा के चिकित्सा संस्थानों द्वारा इन्हें लागू करने के लिए भारतीय केन्द्रीय चिकित्सा परिषद् अधिनियम, 1970 की धारा 36(1)(अ) तथा (त) में जनवरी, 77 में अधिसूचित कर दिया गया है । भारतीय चिकित्सा की केन्द्रीय परिषद् ने आयुर्वेद के विभिन्न विषयों के प्रशिक्षण और स्नातकोत्तर अध्ययन के लिए न्यूनतम मानक तथा पाठ्यचर्या भी तैयार कर लिए हैं । स्नातकपूर्व आयुर्वेदीय शिक्षा के स्तर में सुधार लाने तथा उसका प्राधुनिकीकरण करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वैच्छिक संस्थाओं द्वारा चलाए जा रहे कालेजों को अनुदान देती है । एक केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना के अन्तर्गत आयुर्वेद के 16 स्नातकोत्तर विभागों को भी सहायता दी जाती है । छठी योजना के दौरान राज्य सरकारों द्वारा चलाए जा रहे कालेजों तथा प्राइवेट कालेजों को सहायता देने की एक योजना भी शामिल कर ली गई है ।

(ग) (1) केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न राज्यों के आयुर्वेद के स्नातकोत्तर विभागों के उन्नयन के लिए 1978-79 के दौरान सहायता देने का विचार किया गया है, जो इस प्रकार है :—

राज्य	(रुपये लाखों में)
राजस्थान	4.00
पश्चिम बंगाल	3.00
महाराष्ट्र	1.00
उत्तर प्रदेश	4.00
आन्ध्र प्रदेश	4.00*
उड़ीसा	3.00

मध्य प्रदेश	3.00
केरल	4.50
पंजाब	2.00
बिहार	2.00
गुजरात	2.00
कर्नाटक	4.00

* इसमें एक यूनानी स्नातकोत्तर विभाग का प्रावधान भी शामिल है ।

(2) स्वैच्छिक संगठनों द्वारा चलाए जा रहे भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धति के स्नातकपूर्व कालेजों को सहायता देने के लिए 1978-79 के लिए 5.00 लाख रुपये की व्यवस्था की गई है ।

विवरण

राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्र	सरकारी गैर-सरकारी
1. आन्ध्र प्रदेश	3 1
2. असम	1 —
3. बिहार	3 6
4. गुजरात	5* 5*
5. हरियाणा	— 5
6. हिमाचल प्रदेश	1 —
7. जम्मू व कश्मीर	1* —**
8. कर्नाटक	3 4
9. केरल	2 3
10. मध्य प्रदेश	7 4
11. महाराष्ट्र	3 14
12. उड़ीसा	1 2
13. पंजाब	1 4
14. राजस्थान	2* 3*
15. तमिलनाडु	— 1
16. उत्तर प्रदेश	5* 5*
17. पश्चिम बंगाल	3 3
18. दिल्ली	1 2

(सहायता प्राप्त)

** 1976-77 से बाबिला देना बन्द कर दिया गया है
*एक स्वशासी

मणिपुर, त्रिपुरा, मेघालय, नागालैण्ड, सिक्किम, चण्डीगढ़, पांडिचेरी, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, अण्डमान और निकोबार द्वीपसमूह, मिजोरम, बाबर और नगर हवेली, लक्षद्वीप तथा गोवा, दमन व दीव में कोई आयुर्वेदीय संस्था नहीं है ।

Bilateral Relations with Afghanistan

760. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Afghanistan has recently shown interest in reviewing the bilateral relations with India;

(b) if so, whether the matter has since been considered by the Government of India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) to (c) The present Afghan leadership has consistently welcomed the continuance of close and traditional friendship and economic cooperation between India and Afghanistan. They have also expressed their desire to strengthen this relationship further. Apart from our contact through diplomatic channels and at official level, I had the opportunity of paying an official visit to Afghanistan from September 18—20, 1978, in response to an invitation from the Afghan Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. During the visit, the progress achieved in commercial, economic and cultural cooperation was examined in detail and it was decided that the area of bilateral cooperation should be further broadened.

Our contacts have confirmed the desire of both countries to maintain and develop mutually beneficial relations.

हुबली टेक्सटाइल मिल्स की भविष्य निधि की बकाया राशि

761 श्री हुकम चन्द कठुबाय : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा अर्थ मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हुबली टेक्सटाइल मिल्स, हुबली (कर्नाटक) ने गत कई वर्षों से अपने हिस्से की भविष्य निधि राशि जमा नहीं कराई है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो मिल की ओर कितनी राशि बकाया है और उसे वसूल करने के लिये क्या प्रयास किये गये हैं ?

अथ तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम कृपाल सिंह) : (क) भविष्य निधि प्राधिकारियों ने सूचित किया है कि हुबली टेक्सटाइल मिल्स नाम का प्रतिष्ठान कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि और प्रकीर्ण उपबन्ध अधिनियम, 1952 के अधीन नहीं आता है। तथापि मिस्र महादेव टेक्सटाइल मिल्स, हुबली, कर्नाटक ने दिसम्बर, 1976 से मार्च, 1978 तक की अवधि के लिए भ्रष्टाचार का अपना शेयर जमा नहीं करवाया है।

(ख) मिल ने शेयर के रूप में 3.19 लाख रुपये की धनराशि का भुगतान करना है। क्षेत्रीय भविष्य निधि प्रायुक्त ने अधिनियम की धारा 14 के अधीन प्रबन्ध तंत्र के विरुद्ध अभियोजन मामले दायर किए हैं और उक्त धनराशियों की वसूली के लिए अधिनियम की धारा 8 के अधीन राजस्व वसूली कार्रवाई भी प्रारम्भ की है।

Indians in Libya

762. SHRI C. N. VISWANATHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of officers was sent to Libya to assess the extent of suffering of Indian nationals there and to suggest remedial measures; and

(b) if so, the particulars of study made and the concrete steps taken to alleviate their suffering?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) No Sir. The terms and conditions offered to Indian experts working in Libya have generally been satisfactory.

(b) Does not arise.

विभागेतर डाक घरों के कर्मचारियों का वेतन

763. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभागेतर डाकघरों में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों का वर्तमान वेतनमान या वेतन कितना है ;

(ख) उन्हें कौन-कौन सी अतिरिक्त सुविधाएं प्राप्त हैं ; और

(ग) उनके कार्य के घंटे या उन्हें सौंपे गये कार्य तथा डाकघरों की अन्य शाखाओं में किसे जा रहे कार्य के बीच कितना अन्तर है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुखदेव साय) : (क) विभिन्न श्रेणियों के विभागेतर कर्मचारियों को देय एक मुश्त मेहनताने की दरें संलग्न विवरण पत्र में दी गई हैं।

(ख) जिन विभागेतर कर्मचारियों ने 3 वर्ष की सेवा पूरी कर ली हो उनका ग्रुप-डी और पोस्टमैन के नियमित विभागीय पदों में खपाने के लिए बाहरी उम्मीदवारों पर तरजीह दी जाती है। उन्हें इन काइरों में खपाने के लिए आयु सीमा में 40 वर्ष की आयु तक की छूट दी जाती है। जिन विभागेतर कर्मचारियों ने विभाग में कम से कम 1 वर्ष की सेवा पूरी कर ली है, उन्हें क्लर्की रिक्त स्थानों पर भरती करने के मामले में गुणवत्ता के आधार पर बाहरी उम्मीदवारों के साथ प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेने के लिए 40 वर्ष तक की छूट दी जाती है। विभागेतर एजेंट जब कम से कम 15 वर्ष की संतोषजनक सेवा पूरी कर लेते हैं तो वे अन्तिम लाभ के तौर पर अधिक से अधिक 750 रुपये का अनुग्रही उपदान पाने के हकदार हैं और यह रकम हर तीन वर्ष की ऐसी सेवा के लिए एक महीने के भत्ते की दर से निकाली जाती है।

(ग) हालांकि विभागेतर शाखा डाकघरों और विभागीय डाकघरों में किया जाने वाला काम एक ही प्रकार का है लेकिन विभागेतर शाखा डाकघरों के मामले में काम के घंटे प्रतिदिन कम से कम 3 और अधिक से अधिक 5 घंटे के बीच निश्चित किये जाते हैं और विभागीय डाकघरों के मामले में काम का समय प्रतिदिन 8 घंटे होता है।

विवरण

सितम्बर 1977 से

	प्रतिमास कम से कम	प्रतिमास अधिक से अधिक
	₹0	₹0
1. विभागेतर उप-पोस्टमास्टर	140	170
2. विभागेतर शाखा पोस्टमास्टर	100	120
3. विभागेतर डाकटिकट विश्लेषक	100	120
4. विभागेतर डाक वाहक विभागेतर वितरण एजेंट विभागेतर पैकर विभागेतर संदेशवाहक विभागेतर चौकीदार	85* @100	(निश्चित) 120

* 2 घंटों से कम

@ 10 घंटे और इससे अधिक

Convening Conference of Littoral States

764. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiative has been taken by India to convene a conference of littoral States to discuss the question of keeping Indian Ocean as a zone of peace as suggested by the United Nations; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) and (b). The U.N. Ad-hoc Committee set up to implement the UN Resolution on the Establishment of a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean, of which India is a member, unanimously decided to convene a meeting of littoral and hinterland States in mid-1979 as the next step towards the convening of a Conference on the Indian Ocean and the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. Other States can participate on the invitation of the Committee. This recommendation is now before the current session of the U. N. General Assembly for approval. India has supported this proposal, though it is our view that to achieve meaningful results it is necessary to include the Super Powers and other major maritime users in the deliberations leading to a final outcome.

Promotion in Government Medical Stores Depot, Madras

765. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many qualified, Officials, especially Junior Scientific Assistants, who are put in longer Service in Government Medical Store Depot, Madras are having no promotional avenues at all, on account of the existing Recruitment Rules;

(b) if so, what action has been taken to provide promotional avenues; and

(c) when the amendment to recruitment rules will be finalised, if it is under proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government Medical Stores Depot Workers' Union had made a demand for providing avenues of promotion for the Junior Scientific Assistants to the post of Assistant Chemists. According to the existing recruitment rules for the post of Assistant Chemist notified in 1966, this post is required to be filled 100 per cent by direct recruitment. The post of Junior Scientific Assistant did not exist in 1966. It was proposed to amend the recruitment rules for the post of Assistant Chemist so as to provide promotional avenues to Junior Scientific Assistants, but the matter was kept pending till the exact number of posts of Junior Scientific Assistants and Assistant Chemists was known, after the implementation of the recommendation of the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance which envisaged creation and abolition of a number of posts.

As the recommendations of the Staff Inspection Unit have since been implemented and necessary sanction for the creation/abolition of posts has been issued, action to amend the said recruitment rules for the post of Assistant Chemist has been initiated.

(c) Finalisation of recruitment rules is a time consuming process. However, every effort shall be made to finalise the matter most early.

News Item Captioned "Emigration—A Hell for Job Seekers"

767. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn towards news item captioned "Emigration—a hell for job seekers", published in the Blitz, dated the 30th September, 1978; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and remedial steps taken in the direction?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Yes Sir.

(b) Government are aware of the illegal activities of recruiting agents, who assist emigration of Indian workers through Nepal and Afghanistan in violation of the Emigration Act, 1922. Government have also taken steps to prevent illegal emigration including institution of emigration checks at important exit points viz., Bombay, Trivandrum, Delhi and Amritsar sea/air ports. The checks are designed to ensure that intending job seekers, whenever found to be emigrating in violation of the Emigration Act, are not allowed to depart. Government also keeps a vigilant eye on the emigration staff and whenever any case of corruption is reported to the Government, the matter is investigated and stern action is taken. Recently, Government have suspended two emigration officials who had allegedly indulged in corrupt practices.

The regulation of emigration is in the interest of workers as it ensures adequate terms and conditions of employment, and minimises changes of their exploitation abroad. From time to time, Government also prescribes minimum payable wages so that Indian workers are not paid below the prevailing level of wages in the foreign country concerned. Whenever any case of exploitation by a foreign employer comes to the notice of the Government, appropriate action is taken; if it becomes necessary, the defaulting foreign employer is not allowed further recruitment from India.

In the last one year ending October 78, Government have permitted recruitment of 43,350 workers for the Gulf

countries and Saudi Arabia. An inter-ministerial committee was also appointed to look into the question of employment of Indian workers and to suggest ways and means to streamline procedures conducive to quick deployment of workers abroad. The Committee has already submitted its report to the Government for its consideration.

Indian Workers working in Nepal under Colombo Plan

768. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that a large number of Indian workers are working in Nepal under the Colombo Plan for the last 11 years;

(b) is it a fact that the condition of services of these workers have not yet been regularised;

(c) is it a fact that the Government Employees National Confederation have complained to Government regarding their grievances; and

(d) if so, what action Government has taken on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir. Both Indian and Nepalese nationals are working on Indian-aided Highway Projects in Nepal. At present there are 683 Nepalese and 341 Indians employed in the locally recruited category on the Indian Aid Highway Projects.

(b), (c) and (d). Locally recruited workers are employed on a temporary basis as the projects are not of a permanent nature. In the emoluments of the locally recruited employees no distinction is made between Indian and Nepalese nationals. The terms and conditions of service of locally recruited staff do not include regularisation of service on a permanent basis.

The representations of the locally recruited employees are kept in view

while granting additional benefits to them which are kept commensurate with changes in the local cost of living.

Additional benefits like compensatory allowance, terminal benefits, medical benefits and overtime allowance were sanctioned to Nepal-based workers as recently as on 1-6-1978.

Telephone Connections and Post Offices in M. P.

769. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) as per the new policy of the P & T Department pertaining to Rural connections in remote areas, villages and unconnected police stations, how many (1) new postal box service (2) new post-offices (3) new P. C. Os (4) telephone connections were given in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) of the above, how many in each category were provided in the Districts of (a) Rajgarh (b) Guna and (c) Vidisha;

(c) how many new staff quarters were built in the above three districts of Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) what are the targets for each category for the years 1978 and 1979?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) and (b). *Postal*

Norms for opening of post offices in the rural areas have been revised with effect from 28-8-78. The following post offices were opened and letter boxes were installed after that date in Madhya Pradesh and in the Districts of Rajgarh, Guna and Vidisha:

	<i>Post Offices</i>	<i>Letter Boxes</i>
Madhya Pradesh	29	612
Rajgarh District	..	21
Guna District	6	6
Vidisha District	1	37

Telecommunication

No. of Public Telephones opened in Madhya Pradesh during 1978-79.

- | | |
|----------------------|----|
| (i) Remote areas | .. |
| (ii) Police Stations | 5 |

No new policy has been framed for giving telephone connections in rural areas.

(b) No public telephone has been provided/opened in remote areas and Police Stations in districts Rajgarh, Guna and Vidisha.

(c) No quarters for Postal Staff are being built at Rajgarh during 1978-79. 9 Type-I and 9 Type-II quarters are under construction at Guna. At Vidisha 2 Type-II and 2 Type-III quarters have been constructed and are in occupation of postal staff.

(d) Postal. In Madhya Pradesh Postal Circle, it is proposed to open 750 post offices in the rural areas during 1978-79 and 400 during 1979-80. Targets for the installation of letter boxes are 6,000 and 4,000 during 1978-79 and 1979-80 respectively.

(ii) A total of 421 staff quarters of Type-I, Type-II and Type-III are planned for construction in this Postal Circle during Sixth Five Year Plan.

Telecommunication: Targets for opening public telephones for each category during the year 1978-79:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (i) Sub Tehsils | 5 |
| (ii) Block Headquarters | 48 |
| (iii) Places having a population of more than 5,000 | 5 |
| (iv) Hilly and backward areas having a population of more than 2,500 | 100 |
| (v) Police Stations | 50 |
| (vi) Remote areas | |

TOTAL	208
--------------	------------

Aluminium Industry

771. SHRI HALIMUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of Aluminium Industries in India under Government and Private control; and

(b) the number of employees working in these industries whether there is any proposal for revision of their wages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) There are four aluminium producing companies in the country, namely:—

Public Sector

- (i) Bharat Aluminium Company Limited.

Private Sector

- (ii) Indian Aluminium Company Limited,
(iii) Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Limited, and
(iv) Madras Aluminium Company Limited.

(b) The total number of persons employed by these companies is about 19,200. There is no proposal for revision of wages in the private sector. The Bharat Aluminium Company Limited have recently revised the wage scales of the workmen category of Korba Aluminium Project, including mines. Wage revision is contemplated in respect of workmen category of other establishments and supervisory employees.

Provision of a Letter Box in each Village

772. SHRI HALIMUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide at least a letter box in each village of Bihar in particular and India in general; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor by which year the Government will be able to provide at least a letter box to each village of India in general and Bihar in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEV SAI): (a) and (b). All the villages which, on an average receive 1 to 2 letters a day and which are situated at a distance of one mile from the nearest post office or letter box, are proposed to be provided with letter boxes during the Sixth Plan period ending 31st March, 1983.

Consumption of Iron and Steel in Bihar

773. SHRI HALIMUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the *per capita* consumption of iron and steel in the State of Bihar in particular and India in general;

(b) whether the *per capita* consumption of steel in Bihar is lowest in India; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to raise the capability for the development of the State thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) to (c). Per capita consumption of steel in India is about 14 kg. per annum. Data regarding State-wise consumption is not maintained. In view of this it is not possible to state whether per capita consumption of steel in Bihar is lowest or otherwise.

Chairmen of Public Undertakings

774. SHRI HALIMUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the names of Chairman of the public undertakings under his Ministry with the dates of their appointment and their qualification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): The required information is given in the Statement. The following undertakings are, however, presently headed by a Managing Director only:—

- (1) National Mineral Development Corporation Limited.
- (2) Bharat Refractories Limited.
- (3) Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited.
- (4) Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited.
- (5) India Fire Bricks and Insulation Company Limited.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Public Undertaking	Name of Chairman/Chairman-Cum-Managing Director	Date of Appointment	Qualifications
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	Dr. P. L. Agarwal, Chairman.	29-5-78	B. Sc. (Met. Engg.) Ph. D. in Fuel Technology.
2.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd.	Shri K. C. Khanna, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	10-6-76	B. Sc. (Metallurgy).
3.	Metallurgical & Engg. Consultants (India) Ltd.	Shri K. C. Mohan, Chairman-Cum-Managing Director.	16-11-77	B. E. (Chem.) Madras M. Sc. in Fuel Technology from Imperial College of Sc. & Technology, London D. I. C., London.

1	2	3	4	5
4. Manganese Ore (India) Ltd.	Shri O. P. Vasudeva, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	19-9-75	B. Sc., A.I.S.M. in Mining Engineering	
5. Bolani Ores Limited.	Shri P. K. Paul, Chairman.	24-5-77	B. Sc. B. E. (Met.) AMAE (London and M.I.E. (India).	
6. Sponge Iron India Ltd.	Shri V. K. Dar, Chairman.	Yet to take charge.	B.A. (Combined Hons.)	
7. IISCO Stanton Pipe & Foundry Co. Limited.	Shri D. R. Ahuja, Chairman.	11-9-78	B. Sc. (Mech. Engg.)	
8. Hindustan Steel-works Construction Ltd.	Shri B. G. Baljekar, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	20-11-78	B. E. (Civil).	
9. Hindustan Copper Ltd.	Shri J. Marwaha, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	2-8-78	B. Sc. (Engg.) Metallurgist.	
10. Hindustan Zinc Limited.	R. P. Kapur, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	7-7-76	A.I.S.M. (India) M.E. (Mineral Dressing) U.K. 1st Class Coal Mine Manager's Certificate of Competency. 1st Class Metalliferous Manager's Certificate of Competency.	
11. Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd.	Shri K. S. Mahapatra, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	16-8-75	A.I.S.M. (India) 1st Class Mine Managers Certificate of Competency.	
12. Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.	Shri P. D. Gupta, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	3-6-76	B. Sc. (Mining Engg.) 1st Class Mine Manager's Certificate (Metal), Surveyor's Competency Certificate (Coal & Metal).	
13. Bharat Aluminium Company Limited.	Shri S. Varadan, Chairman-cum-Managing Director.	18-9-78	*	

*Shri Varadan is working as Joint Secretary in the Department of Mines and presently holds the post of Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Bharat Aluminium Company Limited on a temporary basis in addition to his duties as Joint Secretary.

साहवरा टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज को टेलीफोन सेवा में सुधार करना

775. श्री सरत कार : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यमुनापार क्षेत्र में साहवरा टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज में टेलीफोन सेवा दोषयुक्त होने के कारण जनता भारी असुविधा अनुभव कर रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वहां पर टेलीफोन सेवा में सुधार करने के लिये की गई व्यवस्था का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) वहां पर टेलीफोन सेवा में सुधार न करने के मुख्य कारण क्या हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद मुखर्जी साह) : (क) यमुना-पार क्षेत्र के निचले इलाकों में मानसून के दौरान अप्रत्यक्ष बाढ़ आई थी जिससे साहवरा, पूर्वी साहवरा और गान्धिवार एक्सचेंजों को दिल्ली दूर-सेवा

व्यवस्था के साथ एक्सचेंजों के साथ जोड़ने वाले जंकशन केबलों पर बुरा असर पड़ा था। इन तीन एक्सचेंजों को जोड़ने वाले बहुत बड़ी संख्या में स्थानीय केबल भी खराब हो गये थे।

गाजियाबाद और शाहदरा एक्सचेंजों के बीच जमींदोज केबल 26-10-78 और फिर 28-10-78 को काट कर चोरी कर लिये गये थे।

परिणामस्वरूप यमुना पार एक्सचेंजों के उप-भोक्ताओं और वाणी दिल्ली के उपभोक्ताओं के बीच टेलीफोन संचार व्यवस्था में बुरी तरह गड़बड़ी पैदा हो गई थी।

(ख) और (ग) यमुनापार के तीन एक्सचेंजों और बाकी दिल्ली के एक्सचेंजों के बीच जंकशन केबलों और तीन एक्सचेंजों में प्राथमिक केबलों को गैस प्रेशराइजेशन में रखने का प्रस्ताव है जिससे केबलों में पानी भरने से रोका जा सकेगा और दोषों का शीघ्र पता लगाना संभव होगा।

जहां तक टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज उपस्कर का प्रश्न है, इस समय दो परियोजनाओं पर कार्रवाई चल रही है, एक—एक्सचेंज के कार्यकरण में सुधार लाने के लिए '20' एक्सचेंज का दर्जा बढ़ाना और दूसरा—एक्सचेंज पर अधिक भार कम करने के लिये '20' एक्सचेंज में 1600 लाइनों का विस्तार करना।

Loss suffered by Steel Industry in West Bengal

776. SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) details of the losses suffered by the Steel industry in West Bengal due to the recent unprecedented and devastating floods;

(b) whether the steel plants are now operating; and

(c) if not, what steps, if any, are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) In Durgapur Steel Plant and the Alloy Steels Plant at Durgapur damage was caused to a majority of the equipment of the underground systems of the plants as well as to a large number of civil structures, roads, culverts etc. both in the plants and the townships. A large quantity

of oils from the oil cellars and gear boxes etc. of the sub-merged equipment became unusable and resulted in contamination. In financial terms, the loss is estimated as under:—

	(Rupees in lakhs)	
	DSP	ASP
Damage to plant and equipment . . .	25.0	2.5
Damage to buildings, civil structures etc.	33.0	5.0
Damage to lubricating oil	15.0	..
TOTAL	73.0	7.5

Heavy rains and floods also affected the captive collieries of Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd.

The loss of production on this account is estimated as under:—

	(In tonnes)		
	DSP	ASP	IISCO
Saleable Steel	40,000	2,000	19,200
Pig Iron for sale	2,158		
Coke Oven By-products	443		..
Approx. value of production loss in terms of saleable products only	Rs. 7.0	Rs. 3.6	Rs. 4.3
	crores	crores	crores

The loss of production in the captive collieries of IISCO is estimated at 78,800 tonnes valued at Rs. 78.8 lakhs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

यूरोपीय देशों में सांस्कृतिक घटना

777. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन यूरोपीय देशों के नाम क्या हैं जहां भारत सरकार के सांस्कृतिक घटना हैं ;

(ख) सरदास की पंचशती समारोह के सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने क्या-क्या कार्य किया है, और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि अधिकांश देशों में सरदास की पंचशती मनाने के लिये अभी तक कुछ नहीं किया गया है।

विदेश मंत्री (श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी): (क) यूरोप के देशों में स्थित हमारे सभी मिशनो में सांस्कृतिक कार्यों को देखने के लिये अधिकारी नियुक्त हैं जिनमें से मिशनो के आकार के आधार पर कुछ पूर्णरूप से सांस्कृतिक कार्यों को ही देखते हैं तथा कुछ अन्य मिशनो के अधिकारी अपने दूसरे दायित्वों के अतिरिक्त इस कार्य को भी पूरा करते हैं।

(ख) और (ग) हमारे अनेक मिशनो को, विशेष रूप से उन देशों में स्थित मिशनो को जहां पर भारतीय मूल के लोगों की संख्या अधिक है, वहां के स्थानीय संगठनों के सहयोग से सरदास पंचशती समारोह आयोजित करने की सलाह दी गई है। हमने उन्हें उपयुक्त माहिन्य और अन्य प्रचार सामग्री भी भेजी है और हमारे कुछ मिशनो ने मूल पंचशती के अवसर पर सफलतापूर्वक कार्यक्रम भी आयोजित किये हैं।

इस्पात के उत्पादन में गैस का उपयोग

778. श्री बी० जी० हाण्डे: क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में इस्पात के उत्पादन के लिए पश्चिम एशियाई देशों से मंगाकर गैस का उपयोग किया जायेगा ; और

(ख) क्या विशाखापत्तनम में प्रस्तावित इस्पात संयंत्र के लिए मास्को से कोकिंग कोल का आयात किया जा रहा है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कटिया मुष्ठा) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) अभी इस बारे में कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है।

अन्धता नियंत्रण

779. श्री बी० जी० हाण्डे : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार देश में अंधेपन पर नियंत्रण करने के लिए उचित कार्यवाही करने का है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी व्यौरा क्या है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) भारत सरकार ने देश में अन्धता पर नियंत्रण पाने के लिए पहले ही उचित कार्रवाई कर ली है। दृष्ट विकार निवारण और अन्धता नियंत्रण संबंधी एक राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम पहले से ही चल रहा है।

(ख) इस राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम के उद्देश्य इस प्रकार हैं :—

(1) जन प्रचार और विस्तार शिक्षा तरीकों के माध्यम से नेत्र-स्वास्थ्य देखरेख संबंधी शैक्षिक प्रयासों को तेज करना।

(2) नेत्र शिविर लगा कर दृष्टि को ठीक करने और नेत्र-रोगों को दूर करने के लिए मोबाइल यूनितों के जरिए नेत्र-देखरेख सेवाओं का विस्तार करना ; और

(3) प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य फेन्टों, तालुक और जिले अस्पतालों, मेडिकल कालेजों और क्षेत्रीय नेत्र विज्ञान संस्थानों में नेत्र-स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के लिए स्थायी सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करना। डा० राजेन्द्र प्रसाद नेत्र-विज्ञान केन्द्र, अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, नई दिल्ली को इस कार्यक्रम की योजना बनाने के लिए और इसे कार्यान्वित करने के लिए तकनीकी नेतृत्व प्रदान करने हेतु एक सर्वोच्च संगठन के रूप में विकसित किया जा रहा है।

इस्पात उद्योग की हानि

780. श्री युवराज : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस्पात उद्योग को गत 18 महीनों से हानि हो रही है और इसमें पहले भी हानि हो रही थी क्योंकि सरकारी क्षेत्र की इस्पात कंपनियों के प्रबन्ध हांचे में परिवर्तन नहीं हो पाया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कुल कितनी हानि हुई है और स्थिति में सुधार करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कटिया मुष्ठा) : (क) और (ख). पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश की उन कंपनियों के,

जो सर्वतोमुखी इस्पात कारखानों की मालिक हैं, कार्य-परिणाम नीचे दिए गए हैं :—

कंपनी	(करोड़ रुपये) कार्य-परिणाम		(करोड़ रुपये) कार्य-परिणाम	
	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	
हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लि०	(+) 44.66	(+) 67.46	(+) 46.78*	
बोकारो स्टील लि०	(-) 16.94	(+) 1.76	(-) 10.10*	
इंडियन आयरन एंड स्टील लि०	(-) 5.61	(-) 16.31	(-) 31.29*	
टाटा आयरन एंड स्टील कंपनी लि०	(+) 9.42	(+) 12.05	(+) 7.77	

इस समय बोकारो इस्पात कारखाने का 17 लाख टन पिण्ड से 40 लाख टन पिण्ड तक विस्तार किया जा रहा है। केवल विस्तार की गई इकाइयों के पूरी तरह चालू हो जाने और संतोषजनक स्तर तक उत्पादन प्राप्त कर लेने के पश्चात् ही इसके कार्य-परिणामों में सुधार होगा और इसके उत्पादन में स्थिरता आएगी।

इंडियन आयरन एंड स्टील कंपनी लि० में हानि मुख्यतः क्षमता के कम उपयोग और अधिक मूल्यह्रास तथा व्याज के अधिक बोझ के कारण हुई है। अतः उत्पादन को अधिकधिक करने के लिए बहुत से कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं और आशा है कि इस कारखाने के कार्यकरण में धीरे-धीरे सुधार होने लगेगा।

सरकारी क्षेत्र के इस्पात उद्योग का समग्र रूप से कार्यकरण तथा कुशल प्रबन्ध सुनिश्चित करने के लिए 1-5-1978 से लागू किये गए "पब्लिक सेक्टर लोहा और इस्पात कंपनी (पुनः संरचना) तथा प्रकीर्ण उपबंध", अधिनियम, 1978 के द्वारा संगठनात्मक ढांचे में कुछ संरचनात्मक परिवर्तन किए गए हैं। इसके फलस्वरूप "इस्को" स्टील अथॉरिटी आफ इंडिया लि० को एक सहायक कंपनी बन गई है। इससे इस कारखाने के सम्मुख आ रही प्रौद्योगिक, परिचालन और वित्तीय समस्याओं को सुचारु रूप से हल करने में काफी सहायता मिलेगी।

*अस्थायी। "पब्लिक सेक्टर लोहा और इस्पात कंपनी (पुनः संरचना) तथा प्रकीर्ण उपबंध", अधिनियम, 1978 के अनुसार सरकारी क्षेत्र के इस्पात कारखानों का पुनर्गठन हो जाने के परिणामस्वरूप हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लि० और बोकारो इस्पात लि० के 30-4-1978 तक के 13 महीनों के वार्षिक लेखों को अन्तिम रूप दे दिया गया है।

Steel Material Allotted to Gauhati Stockyard, SAIL

781. SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of steel materials allotted to Gauhati Stock-

yard SAIL during the last six months and the present stock position at Gauhati stockyard as on 31-10-1978;

(b) total quantity allotted to each State under Gauhati stockyard during the last six months;

(c) whether Government has decided to release steel materials to the respective States through agencies appointed by the Government as sale of materials outright to consumers was found to be not feasible due to transport bottleneck;

(d) whether the Government of Meghalaya has appointed any agency for channelising steel materials to Garo Hills District of Meghalaya; if so, whether any material has been allotted through the agency;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what quantity of GP sheets and GC sheets were released to the consumers of Garo Hills District of Meghalaya during the last six months and the names of these consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA):

(a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Permission to make Films on Scheduled Castes

782. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thames Television of London, has applied for the grant of permission to make half-an-hour film on Scheduled Castes in India and if

so, when it was applied for and with what back-ground;

(b) whether permission was not granted, if so, reasons thereof; and

(c) number of foreign film producers given permission previously and on what grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir. The application was first made to the High Commission of India in London on July 28, 1978. The Thames Television wanted to produce a documentary film on the Scheduled Castes in India.

(b) Permission was declined as a matter of policy on the consideration that a lengthy visual coverage of the problems faced by any particular section of the population as such could become undignified and provocative and run the risk of offending the sentiments of the concerned community.

(c) Government gave permission to 185 foreign TV teams to make documentary films in India between March 24, 1977 and November 15, 1978. They were permitted to produce films on different aspects of life in India in accordance with Government's policy of freedom of information to different mass media.

Removal of Films from the Catalogue of Indian High Commission in U.K.

783. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two films concerning Mrs. Indira Gandhi have been taken off the catalogue to Indian documentaries being issued by the information section of the Indian High Commission in U.K.;

(b) if so, furnish facts of the matter; and

(c) the justification therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The films entitled "Indira Gandhi" (in black and white) and "The Prime Minister" (in colour), both produced by the Films Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, were withdrawn from circulation in June, 1977.

(c) These films were withdrawn in pursuance of the decision of the Government of India to withdraw from circulation all documentary films which had direct or indirect relevance to the Emergency.

Ban on Televising the Activities of Rajneesh Ashram, Pune

784. SHRI B. P. MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of BBC London to televise the activities of Rajneesh Ashram, Pune has been banned by Government;

(b) if so, the justification of ban vis-a-vis the secular character of our Constitution in as much as the Ashram is essentially a religious one;

(c) whether it infringes the declared policy of the Janata Election Manifesto which got the mandate to allow full freedom to use media; and

(d) whether the restrictions are similar to those which were adhered to during emergency when lot of restrictions were placed on Indian and foreign media due to which the BBC London had closed their Delhi Office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The activities of the Ashram have received considerable adverse publicity abroad where its name has come to acquire a certain notoriety on account of connotations of violence and sexual and other abuses. There was thus a likelihood of the film giving a distorted impression of the reality in India and it was in the public interest not to permit such unsavoury activities to be portrayed

through a documentary film. The ban does not, therefore, in any way interfere with the secular character of our Constitution, nor can it be construed as an infringement of the freedom of the media. In fact between March 24, 1977 and November 15, 1978, as many as 185 foreign TV teams were permitted to make documentary films in India on different aspects of Indian life.

(d) No, Sir. The restrictions imposed during the Emergency were removed soon after the present Government took office. The present regulations governing the filming of documentaries in India by foreign organisations have been in force since 1971.

नासिक में टेलीफोन उद्योग स्थापित करना

785. श्री हरीशंकर महाले : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या नासिक के लोग एक नये टेलीफोन उद्योग की मांग कर रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो अब तक प्रस्तुत किये गये प्रस्तावों का ज्वीरा क्या है ;

(ग) क्या ये प्रस्ताव छठी पंच वर्षीय योजना में सम्मिलित कर लिये गये हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक कार्यवाही किये जाने की संभावना है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुखदेव साय) : (क) तथा (ख) भारत सरकार को नासिक में इण्डियन टेलीफोन इण्डस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड का एक कारखाना लगाने के लिए महाराष्ट्र सरकार और वहां के जन प्रतिनिधियों से अनुरोध मिले हैं। राज्य सरकार ने नासिक में नया कारखाना लगाने के लिए भूमि तथा अन्य सुविधाएं देने की पेशकश की है।

(ग) और (घ) इण्डियन टेलीफोन इण्डस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड के दो नए कारखाने, यथा एक स्विनिंग कारखाना और एक पारेषण कारखाना लगाने के लिए वर्ष 1978-83 की पंच वर्षीय योजना के मसौदे में व्यवस्था की गई है, इन दो नए कारखानों के लिए स्थान तय करने के प्रश्न पर विचार हो रहा है।

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION UNDER PASSPORTS ACT

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Passports Act, 1967:—

(1) The Passports (Second Amendment) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 466(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd September, 1978.

(2) The Passports (Third Amendment) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 499(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 1978.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2804/78].

NOTIFICATION UNDER LIMESTONE AND DOLOMITE MINES LABOUR WELFARE FUND ACT

श्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री-
(श्री लारंग साय) : मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :

चूना पत्थर और डोलोमाइट खान श्रम कल्याण निधि अधिनियम, 1972 की धारा 16 की उपधारा (4) के अन्तर्गत चूना पत्थर और डोलोमाइट खान श्रम कल्याण निधि (संशोधन) नियम, 1978 (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) की एक प्रति, जो दिनांक 26 अगस्त, 1978 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सांसांनि० 1063 में प्रकाशित हुये थे।

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2805/78].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER INDIAN TELEGRAPH ACT.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Telegraph (First Amendment) Rules, 1978 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1018 in Gazette India dated the 12th August, 1978 under sub-section (5) of section

7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2806/78].

**NOTIFICATIONS UNDER COAL MINES PRO-
VIDENT FUND AND MISCELLANEOUS PRO-
VISIONS ACT**

श्री सारंग साय : मैं डा० राम कृपाल सिंह की ओर से कोयला खान भविष्य निधि तथा प्रकीर्ण उपबन्ध अधिनियम, 1948 की धारा 7क के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित अधिसूचनाओं (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) की एक एक प्रति सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :

- (1) कोयला खान बोनस (संशोधन) स्कीम, 1978, जो दिनांक 2 सितम्बर 1978 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सा०सां०नि० 1085 में प्रकाशित हुई थी।
- (2) आन्ध्र प्रदेश कोयला खान बोनस (संशोधन) स्कीम 1978, जो दिनांक 2 सितम्बर 1978 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सा०सां०नि० 1086 में प्रकाशित हुई थी।
- (3) राजस्थान कोयला खान बोनस (संशोधन) स्कीम, 1978 जो दिनांक 2 सितम्बर, 1978 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सा०सां०नि० 1087 में प्रकाशित हुई थी।
- (4) आसाम-कोयला खान बोनस (संशोधन) स्कीम, 1978, जो दिनांक 2 सितम्बर, 1978 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सा०सां०नि० 1088 में प्रकाशित हुई थी।

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2807/78].

**NOTIFICATION UNDER DRUGS AND
COSMETICS ACT**

श्री सारंग साय : मैं श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव की ओर से निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :

- (7) औषध तथा प्रसाधन सामग्री अधिनियम, 1940 की धारा 38 के अन्तर्गत औषध तथा प्रसाधन सामग्री (तीसरा संशोधन) नियम 1978 (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) की एक प्रति, जो दिनांक 2 सितम्बर, 1978 के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सा०सां०नि० 1074 में प्रकाशित हुए थे।

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2808/78].

**STATEMENTS OF PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO
(Hanamkonda): I beg to lay on the Table the following Statements:

- (1) Statement showing final replies of Government to the recom-

mendations contained in Chapter V and the action taken replies on the recommendations made in Chapter I of the Twenty-second report of the Public Accounts Committee regarding action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Hundred and Ninety-fifth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on Raj-dhanj Express.

(2) Statement showing final replies of Government to the recommendations contained in Chapter V and the action taken replies on the recommendations made in the Chapter I of the Thirty-first Report of the Public Accounts Committee regarding action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Two Hundred and Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on Expansion of Srinagar Telephone Exchange.

(3) Statement showing final replies of Government to the recommendations contained in Chapter V and the action taken replies on the recommendations made in Chapter I of the Sixtieth Report of the Public Accounts Committee regarding action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Two Hundred and Twenty-fifth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on Diesel Locomotive Works.

12.05 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**REPORTED SHORTAGE OF DIESEL, KEROSENE
OIL AND OTHER PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN
THE COUNTRY**

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur):
I call the attention of the Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers of the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported shortage of diesel, kerosene oil and other petroleum products in the country, particularly in Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh."

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): Sir, Honble Members have called attention of the Government to the reported shortages of diesel oil, kerosene oil and other petroleum products in the country, particularly in Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

2. There have been a number of constraints, including some uncertainties regarding availability of Iran crude, which have affected the crude throughput and consequently, the availability of petroleum products in the country during the last few weeks. While the overall supply position in the country as a whole is satisfactory, there have been some problems of availability of diesel oil in the North West region comprising of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Western U.P.

3. Every year the stock of High Speed Diesel Oil is sought to be built up during the lean monsoon season to the maximum extent possible. Every effort was made this year also to build up inventories in the North West region in order to meet the seasonal high demand and by 1st October 1978, the stock buildup in the North West region was 160,000 Kls of diesel oil, a quantity which is adequate to meet the demands of diesel oil in North West region for about 20 days during the busy season. This stock has been the highest in recent years. The following factors, however, led to a very fast depletion of the stocks:—

(A) There was a 40-day strike by Bombay Port Trust Railway during September-October, 1978 which prevented about 75,000 tonnes of petroleum products being moved to the North West region.

(B) On account of this strike in Bombay Port Trust Railway, a number of tankers containing other products had to be diverted from Bombay to Kandla. The consequent congestion in Kandla resulted in petroleum product tankers having had to wait for 10 to 15 days before

being unloaded. This in turn affected the movement of products by rail to the North West region.

(C) Due to the unprecedented floods in West Bengal, the movement of petroleum products from Haldia Refinery by rail, road as well as by the Haldia-Kanpur pipeline was seriously affected in September-October.

(D) Production at Barauni Refinery has unfortunately suffered seriously as a result of persistent labour trouble, and about 350,000 tonnes of products including diesel have been lost since June, 1978 until now.

4. This situation has been compounded by the fact that while supplies and movements were affected as mentioned above, the demand for diesel has registered a spectacular increase in the North West region. Thus, as against an average daily offtake of about 6100 Kls during the first 20 days of November, 1977, the actual daily sales of diesel oil during the first 20 days of November, 1978 in this very region has been about 7200 Kls. equivalent to a growth of about 17.5 per cent. It may be mentioned in this connection that the anticipated growth rate of diesel oil in the country as a whole is around 9 per cent per annum.

5. However, in spite of higher sales, there are reports of inadequate availability of products in certain North-West locations. This matter has been under close scrutiny for sometime and a number of steps have been taken to improve the availability position further to ensure that the demands are met in full. These steps are as follows:

(i) The Expansion Unit of Koyali, went into operation in October, 1978, and is currently refining at the rate of 2 million tonnes per annum. The operation of this new unit created certain initial problems of loading the additional products but these have been successfully overcome and the loading of diesel and other products from Koyali has improved very

[Shri H. N. Bahuguna]

substantially during the last few days.

(ii) A day to day monitoring of the movement of the railway wagons, their arrivals and unloading is being maintained in order to ensure the speediest possible movement of products to places where they are in short supply.

(iii) The oil companies have jointly nominated a special officer in each State for the purpose of maintaining close liaison with the State Government in regard to the supply and distribution of petroleum products.

6. With the above steps, the availability of diesel in all parts of the North-West region is steadily improving and I am confident that with the despatches which have either already taken place or are planned during the next few weeks, it would be possible to meet in full even the increased demand during the current busy season. It is also expected that the position of stocks in depots and retail outlets *vis-a-vis* their offtake will improve further as supply arrangements stabilise and panic buying comes to an end.

7. I would like to take this opportunity to inform the House that my Ministry has already taken action to procure about 500,000 tonnes of crude in lieu of the expected shortfall in supplies from Iran. In addition we have also been able to arrange for over 300,000 tonnes of diesel and other petroleum products from friendly countries.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: The statement of the hon. Minister requires very close scrutiny. It reveals that the Government of India, for the last one and a half years, have not created an atmosphere of any kind of self-reliance.

I would like to quote for your information and the information of the House the hon. Minister's reply to Unstarred Question No. 249 dated 18th July, 1978, in which he has stated categorically:

"Efforts to find additional sources of oil, both on-shore and off shore, have been stepped up. It is not possible to say when India would be self-sufficient in petroleum."

This is how the Government of India has shown its will to step up oil production and to create a satisfactory position in respect of the most important requirement of this country, because even agricultural production of the country is based on petroleum products.

The hon. Minister has stated in his statement that there are certain constraints etc., but he has not foreseen the shortfalls and shortcomings which are likely to arise. It has been stated in the press for the last so many days that even HSD, which is largely consumed by the northern States like Haryana, Punjab etc., is not available, and the entire agricultural operations have come to a halt. Because a large number of tractors are to be used and trucks are to be operated. But, unfortunately, even that has come to a grinding halt. That is why in Punjab the diesel supply has been rationed.

I would like to mention certain important aspects of the problem. The hon. Minister has not even stated whether the requirement and the supply of the HSD has been completely understood by the Government after the strikes at Bombay port and also in other refineries. I would like to know what the Government is doing with regard to the oil supply and demand. It has been reported that a sudden shortage of high speed diesel and kerosene—the supply shortfall is less acute in the case of the latter—has sent the Government scurrying for imports. The HSD shortage came into the limelight at the time of the strikes in the Bombay port and in the Koyali refinery in Gujarat. I want to know what the Government was doing about it. Should they not have foreseen all these things?

So far as the strike are concerned, it is a routine affair for the Government of India which they are not going to settle. Today, at all the ports where the strike is going on, the labour leader, Mr. Kulkarni, has already disagreed with the negotiations that have been offered by the Government of India. We do not know the result of the damage that is going to be caused to the economy of our country. The Government of India has not even got a mind to settle the issue and all these things.

The problem is not one of hold-ups of supplies of crude and refined products. The issue with respect to HSD in particular is quite different from the shortage of furnace oil in Bombay. The HSD shortage, if not mitigated by quick imports, would scuttle wheat thrashing and kharif sowing operations in the whole of northern and north western India. In various parts of the country, the agricultural operations have been completely stopped. The farmers cannot thrash wheat. They do not get diesel. Diesel is not at all available. In Punjab, the shortage has been meted out by way of rationing. The telegrams from Punjab and Haryana are coming to the hon. Minister. I do not know what action has been taken to meet the situation.

The demand for HSD has shot up following the power cut in the north. I would like to know whether the ministry of Petroleum has taken any effective measures regarding the shortage of power to see how to deal with that problem.

There is also the problem of faulty distribution system. The administration's control on the distribution system has been completely shattered into pieces. The Ministry is incapable of distributing even the available quantity of diesel and kerosene. The Government of India is not able to control the distribution system properly to cater to the needs of the needy people.

So far as the rationing of diesel is concerned, there is a large-scale black marketing going on and the agents are controlling the distribution system. It is completely out of the hands of the Government of India. The black marketing is going in on a large scale. The needy people are not getting diesel at controlled price.

The fact is that the HSD supplies were dwindling and the Oil Coordination Committee had reported it to the Petroleum Ministry. We are heavily dependent upon imports. As regards the ambitious expansion schemes, the expansion of on-shore and off-shore in Bombay High, even that is not functioning properly. I want to know how long we are going to depend upon imports. Unless the administration is streamlined, unless the administration completely controls the distribution system and distributes what is available equitably, the whole system of distribution will fail. The whole system of distribution and agency system is being operated through the vested interests. Those people are operating successfully and they are creating an artificial scarcity in the country.

Another point is this. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would come out with a White Paper on the issue of distribution system of petroleum products as essential commodities are distributed and say whether he is going to take over the distribution system through his Ministry and rationalise the system of distribution, whatever is available.

Also I want a categorical answer from the hon. Minister to this question. With all their expansion schemes and expansion of off-shore and on-shore will he tell me at what point of time we will be self-reliant or self-sufficient as far as these vital items are concerned? What steps are Government of India going to take on a war-footing basis to meet the situation and to gear up the economic development of this country? Also will the

[Shri K. Lakkappa]

hon. Minister institute an inquiry into the distribution system throughout the country and particularly in the northern region where there are large-scale pilferages and black marketing and all administrative inefficiency?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: I share the deep concern of the hon. Member with regard to the point of time by which India will be self-reliant and self-sufficient in the field of crude oil and oil products. But I must say in all humility that the find for oil is being made vigorously, and the spending in the last year was 30 times more than that in the previous year. We are trying to search oil in sea and on the ground, and whatever we can possibly do in that regard is being done. It is our hope and expectation that we would be able to find some new oilfields. But so far we have not struck against any big field. India at the present level is refining about 26.5 million tonnes of crude per annum. India is producing, both on-shore and off-shore, about 11.5 million tonnes per annum. The production has not been cut down, the fields have not been given up; all efforts to produce more from the fields have not been given up; and the find for oil is on. Therefore, it would be less than fair for the hon. Member to accuse the Government of being rather negligent about the objects.

So far as the present question is concerned, from 1st November to 20th November, which is the busy season for sowing when HSD is very much needed, we had supplied the north-west region, about which the hon. Member expressed his deep concern—and rightly so because this is the granary of India with regard to wheat in the last year 6100 kilolitres which suffered to meet the demand of that area. This year we have supplied 7200 kilolitres in the same period but the demand is still a little more. As against the country's overall increase of 9 per cent in consumption of this particular petroleum product, this area has registered a growth rate of 17.5

per cent. Obviously, therefore, there has been a great deal of strain.

There is a misunderstanding in the mind of the hon. Member that there is some rationing system in the distribution of this product. The Government of India have not imposed any such rationing in the matter of petroleum products. We are trying to give as much petroleum products as are needed by the farmers but there have been some panic purchases because it is a hard fact that the shortage from Iran may be equal to 1.1 million tonnes. We have no control over the happenings in Iran and we cannot really influence the Iranian situation in any manner. Therefore, the crude import from Iran may be reduced by 1.1 million tonnes.

I agree with the hon. Member that we should produce more crude in India but there is no method to increase oil production from the existing wells to that level. We have gone round the world and we are grateful to Iraq as well as Abu Dhabi, the two countries which have given us additional crude and we have made some arrangements for spot purchases of products also from the market. But our people are very alert to national and international happenings and naturally, therefore, some of them are feeling perhaps that Iranian situation may upset their requirements later on. Therefore, there is a little bit of panic purchases and I only hope that these panic purchases will cease.

So far as the observation of the hon. Member that the requirements of the peasantry are not met, I can assure him and I can read out the figures to tell him that the daily sales in this region are much more than last year's and we propose to see that that level is maintained. We are rushing supplies and I am happy that the Railways have come to our help also and we are now in control of the situation and in spite of the Bombay port strike two tankers of crude have been cleared with the workers' co-operation and I only hope that in spite of the strike, this particular field will not be hit.

because agriculture is of vital importance and I only hope that with the co-operation of the hon. Members in general and the hon. Member, Shri Lakkappa, in particular, it should be possible for us to persuade even the Port workers to relieve us of these difficulties. I hope they will not come in future and I am expecting things to improve.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Sir, he has not answered all the points.

MR. SPEAKER: No, he has answered all your points.

Dr. Ramji Singh.

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि कुल मिलाकर देश भर में डीजल की सप्लाई स्थिति संतोषजनक है। दूसरी जगह पर उन्होंने कहा है कि एक अक्टूबर, 1978 तक उत्तर पश्चिमी क्षेत्र में 1,16,000 किलो लीटर तेल भण्डार एकत्र कर लिया गया है। ऐसी स्थिति में जब सारा प्रबंध संतोषजनक है और अपेक्षित भण्डार कर लिया गया है फिर इस प्रकार की कमी पंजाब में क्यों पैदा हुई? जैसा कि आपने स्वयं कहा है कि पंजाब भारतवर्ष की ग्रेनरी है वहां पर हजारों ट्रक बेकार खड़े रहते हैं—इस बात का क्या कारण है? अन्य क्षेत्रों में तेल की सप्लाई वाद में भी की जा सकती है लेकिन कृषि के क्षेत्र में अगर बरबादी में मान दिन की भी देरी हो गई तो आपके सारे प्रबंध बेकार हो जायेंगे। यह डीजल का संकट पंजाब, हरियाणा उत्तर प्रदेश, और जैसा नायक जी ने बताया, मध्य प्रदेश के लिए भी कोई नया संकट नहीं है। 1977 के मई महीने में “इकानामिक टाइम्स” ने लिखा था—

“H.S.D. famine. A serious shortage of high speed diesel has developed. The H.S.D. inventory at crucial supply points has touched virtually the rock bottom, and unless steps are taken on a top priority basis, the economic activity may suffer a major setback.”

लेकिन, अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह वह सीजन है जिस में ग्राज से नहीं, बल्कि 1973 से डीजल की सप्लाई की शार्टेज चल रही है, पार्टीफीशियल शार्टेज किए की जाती है। 16 मई, 1973 क ट्रिव्यून को देखिये—

“Three big petrol dealers of Amritsar held”.

उस के बाद 17 मई, 1973 को हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स लिखता है—

“Farmers gherao bus stand and loot diesel.”

17 मई, 1973 को ट्रिव्यून लिखता है—

“More diesel tankers detained.”

ट्रिव्यून फिर आगे लिखता है—

“Two big Diesel Dept. in Punjab soon.”

मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि शायद यह कोई साक्षिण है कि जिस समय बोनो का सीजन आता है, जिस समय ट्रैक्टरों के लिये किसानों को डीजल की जरूरत होती है, उस समय उस को यह सप्लाई नहीं मिलती हो। इसलिये इस काम में तीन दोषी हैं—सब से पहले तो आप का मंत्रालय, जिस का कुप्रबंध इस के लिये जिम्मेदार है। दूसरे—जो डीपोज हैं, वे डीजल की चोरबाजारी करते हैं। तीसरे जैसा आप ने कहा है—बरोनी में स्ट्राइक हुई है, बम्बई में डाक-वर्कर्स की स्ट्राइक हुई है—लेकिन यह कब हुई है—यह देखने की बात है। इस लिये मैं आप के द्वारा माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ—आप इस मंत्रालय में बहुत सक्षम और कुशल मंत्री हैं—कृपा कर अपने मंत्रालय को कसिये और 1973 से 1978 तक के लिये जैसा आप ने कहा है कि पेट्रो-कैमिकल कमिशन आप बहाल करना चाहते हैं तो आप एक हाई-पावर्ड एन्क्वायरी कमेटी बैठाइये, जो इस बात की जांच करे कि 1973 से 1978 तक सोय-सीजन में इस तरह की शार्टेज क्यों हुई। यह शार्टेज कोई मामूली शार्टेज नहीं है—1978 में ट्रिव्यून लिखता है—

“Farmers and transporters are facing an acute shortage of diesel. At none of the filling stations in Chandigarh and also surrounding areas is the commodity easily available. There are long queues where supplies are expected hours before the tankers drive.”

ग्राज डीजल की अवैलिबिलिटी चण्डीगढ़ और मोरिण्ड के बीच में केवल दो जगहों पर है।

“This is like 1974 diesel crisis when diesel tanks were hijacked by angry farmers but this is worse because at the rabi time, if the supplies do not become normal, within a week, agricultural operations may be seriously affected.”

इस लिये, अध्यक्ष महोदय, अब मैं तीन सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ। पहला प्रश्न तो यह है कि इस समय जब कि रबी की बोवाई चल रही है और हमारा पुर-वर्षी पंजाब, हरियाणा उत्तर प्रदेश उस में लग

*[डा० रामजी सिंह]

प्रश्न है, ऐसे समय में जो डीजल की कमी हुई है—क्या यह कस्मि है या इस में प्रबन्ध कुशलता का दोष है—इस के बारे में बतलायें?

दूसरा प्रश्न—बरोनी की हड़ताल आदि की जो बात आप ने बतलाई है—मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब भक्तपुर में पूरी सप्लाई स्टॉक को मिला गई थी, तो फिर यह जाटज कैसे हुई?

तीसरा प्रश्न—आप के मंत्रालय की तरफ से जो मौजूदा प्रबन्ध व्यवस्था है—यह ठीक काम नहीं कर रही है, क्यों न आप इस को, पब्लिक यूटिलिटी सर्विस मान कर जो सार्वजनिक वितरण पद्धति है उस में इस को दे दें।

“The scheme envisages initial coverage of cereals, sugar, kerosene, cloth, vegetable oils and vanaspathi...”

इस लिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप इस को पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम में देने को तैयार हैं या नहीं?

आखरी बात मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ—उत्तर भारत में जितने डीजल की जरूरत है, उस के धनुरूप आप ने भण्डार नहीं बनाया है। आप की एकमपेंट कमेटी की रिकमैण्डेशन है कि वहाँ कम भण्डार है। अगर वहाँ पर पर्याप्त भण्डार रहता तो इस तरह की डीजल की कमी 1974 से लेकर 1978 तक नहीं होती और जनता का आक्रोश नहीं बढ़ता।

श्री हेमवती नन्धन बहुगुणा : मैं माननीय सदस्य का आभारी हूँ कि उन्होंने कई बुनियादी प्रश्न उठाए हैं लेकिन एक बात जो मैं पहले कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि इस वक्त की स्थिति को 1972 या 1974 की स्थिति से मिलाना ठीक नहीं है। जिन्होंने खबर दी है, उन्होंने खबर को प्रतिरिजिन कर दिया है, एग्जा-जरेशन किया है। मैं सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर ब्लैक-मार्केटिंग हो रहा है, तो पंजाब की सरकार और हरियाणा की सरकार के पास पूरी आर्बेस्ट्री है कि वह ब्लैक-मार्केटिंग करने वालों को पकड़ कर बन्ध कर सके। गवर्नमेंट आफ इण्डिया का उस में कोई हाथ नहीं है और मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि वे सक्षम सरकारें हैं और अपना काम करना जानती हैं।

जहाँ तक इस बात का सम्बन्ध है कि रबी के बोने के समय में कमी क्यों आई है, मैंने अपने बयान में बताया है कि हम ने 1,60,000 किलोमीटर डीजल आपस का स्टॉक बनाया था लेकिन उस के साथ 75,000 किलोमीटर और भूब होना का सितम्बर भक्तपुर में जोकि भूब नहीं हो सका। मेरे बयान के पैरा 3 को अन्तः प्रश्न देखें तो उस में मैंने यह कहा है कि 40 दिन की हड़ताल कम्बई पोर्ट ट्रस्ट देखने की सितम्बर-अक्टूबर में हुई थी और उस के कारण हमारा जो स्टोर बना था, उसी स्टोर से हमें तेल निकालना पड़ा क्योंकि 75,000 किलोमीटर उस में माल की कमी हो गई, यह नहीं जा सका और वहाँ नहीं पहुँच सका हड़ताल के कारण।

जहाँ तक बरोनी का मामला है, बचकिस्यती से बरोनी में भी गड़बड़ चल रही है। अगर हड़ताल होती तो कोई भण्डार नहीं था लेकिन वहाँ पर काम चल रहा है। वहाँ पर जो 9,000 टन कूड प्रति दिन प्रोसेस होता था, आजकल 3,000 टन ही प्रोसेस हो रहा है।

श्री डीनेन बट्टाचार्य : (सीरमपुर) : काहे?

श्री हेमवती नन्धन बहुगुणा : क्योंकि बात चल रही है, इसलिए अपनी बात मैं नहीं कहना चाहता। यूनिन वाले जल्दी नागर हो जाते हैं लेकिन वहाँ पर इन्टर यूनिन राइवली है। एक यूनिन वहाँ पर रिकयनाइज्ड है और एक नई यूनिन कनी है 1977 के बाद, जो कहती है कि हम बहुमत में हैं। हम ने प्रदेश की सरकार को कहा है कि आप निर्णय दे दीजिए कि किस को मान्यता प्रदान करें। वह मामला चल रहा है और उस के कारण भण्डार है लेकिन मैं यह नहीं कहता कि मैनेजमेंट का उस में हाथ नहीं है। कुछ मजदूरों की भी मांगें हैं जिन के सम्बन्ध में चर्चा चल रही है जो अभी पूरी नहीं हुई है।

श्री डीनेन बट्टाचार्य : इस में जल्दी फ़ैसला कीजिए।

श्री हेमवती नन्धन बहुगुणा : ‘ना’ करने में तो जल्दी हो जाती है लेकिन ‘हां’ करने में समय लगता है। ‘नो’ करना हो तो मैं आज ही कर दूँ लेकिन मैं सारी स्थिति को देख रहा हूँ।

मान्यवर, अब हालत यह है कि 1977 में जितना तेल प्रतिदिन हम हरियाणा या पंजाब में दे रहे थे, उस का सवाया या उस से ज्यादा तेल आजकल भी वहाँ पर बांट रहे हैं लेकिन फिर भी तेल की कमी का आचाम हो रहा है। अब जो तेल वहाँ जा रहा है, उस से हमें पूरी आशा है, कमी दूर हो जाएगी। और भी अधिक तेल वहाँ भेज रहे हैं कुछ रेलवेज का काम भी पहले से तेज हुआ है और मुझे पूरा भरोसा है कि वहाँ पर लोगों को तेल मिल जाएगा।

यह बात मच है कि 1973-74 में रबी के समय में कुछ गड़बड़ हुई थी लेकिन 1977 में कोई गड़बड़ नहीं हुई। 1977 में भोज की अपेक्षा 17.5 पर सेंट प्रति दिन कम तेल पर काम चलता था लेकिन इस साल थोड़ा ज्यादा बढ़ गई है। मैं नहीं मानता कि टैंकर इतने ज्यादा बढ़ गये हैं या तेल की खपत इतनी ज्यादा बढ़ गई है जो इतनी मांग हो गई है। मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि यह भय बढ़ गया है कि कहीं ईरान से तेल न आए। ईरान में गफले होने के कारण एक भय की स्थिति हो गई है और उस के कारण यह परिवर्तन आया है।

जहाँ तक इस बात का सवाल है कि उत्तरी भारत की जितनी जरूरत है, उस के अनुसार भंडार कैपेसिटी यानी डिपोओं की कैपेसिटी, उन में तेल रखने की क्षमता कम है, उस के बारे में मेरा कहना यह है कि हम ने 1,60,000 किलोमीटर की कैपेसिटी बनाई

है, वह उस रिपोर्टर के बाव ही बढ़ाई है, जिस रिपोर्टर की चर्चा माननीय शास्त्र साहब ने की है। रोजाना जो सामान जाता है, जिस को जाना चाहिए अगर उस में कोई कटिनाई या एकावट न आए, तो कोई दिक्कत नहीं होगी। मैं यह स्वीकार करने को तैयार हूँ कि कुछ कमी आई है, मैं दोष को मानने को तैयार हूँ और मैं यह कहने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूँ कि हम बिल्कुल निर्दोष हैं और हमारी व्यवस्था बिल्कुल ठीक है। ऐसा कहना अनुचित है और यह कहना तब तक ठीक नहीं होगा जबतक वहाँ का असंतोष नीचे न आ जाए, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि किसानों के बीच मैं यह भय फैलाना इस वक्त और भी खतरनाक होगा। देश में तूट के उत्पादन को देखते हुए और ईरान के तेल की कमी के कारण और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में तेल की उपलब्धता की कमी के कारण जो स्थिति है, उस में हम आपस में बातचीत का एक ऐसा लेविल रखें, जिस के कारण बाहर भ्रम न पैदा हो। मेरी यही आर्चना माननीय सदस्यों से है।

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Faridkot): The statement of the hon. Minister and also his views recently) expressed .. (*Interruption*)**

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly don't interrupt. I have called Mr. Balwant Singh Ramoowalia. Please don't record. You have long experience. It is Calling Attention.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA: The statement of the hon. Minister regarding the stock of high-speed diesel, which he has made in the House, has rather disappointed me, Sir, he has repeatedly said that the supply of diesel is sufficient but his statement has really surprised me. The hon. Minister, on the one hand, says emphatically that there is sufficient stock to meet the demand in Punjab, Haryana, U.P. and all the districts of this region. But, Sir, on the other hand, the statistics with me says that in Amritsar and also in Patiala there is only 400 k.l. of diesel. In Kotkapura there is only a stock of 800 k.l. In Amritsar there is a stock of only 100 k.l. of high-speed diesel. Can this be considered as a sufficient arrangement? This sufficiency will last only till yesterday. This is likely to have been finished by yesterday afternoon. I would humbly request the hon. Minister to specially look into it. There

is acute shortage of diesel there. A photo has been shown by my colleague, Dr. Ramji Singh. I don't say that it is a shameful thing—I don't say that—but I say that it is a challenge to the hon. Minister. You have emerged into the political field as a sympathiser of kisans, as a socialist, having socialist ideology and pro-poor attitude. I don't say that it is a shameful thing, but it is a challenge to you that the people of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan are facing this difficulty. The passenger and goods transport people are facing this difficulty. They have to transport goods to various places. These transport people are facing acute shortage of diesel. The gravity of the situation is such that though the Punjab Government—under the able leadership of Sardar Prakash Singh Badal—tried its best to solve the problem, yet, it had to resort to rationing in Punjab. Sir, there is rationing in Punjab. Hon. Shri Bahugunaji may kindly think over it. The tractors, instead of doing work in the field, are lying idle in the filling stations. The hands which ought to produce foodgrains in the country are lying idle in these filling stations. This brings a bad name to Janata party also. I would urge upon you that the requirements of Punjab need your special consideration, because, Punjab has got more than 75,000 tractors at present. Punjab peasants are having more than 4 lakhs diesel pumps and Punjab has increased its consumption of fertilizers by 26 per cent during the last one year. Punjab is the only State where the production of paddy had gone up by 41 per cent in one year; this is a world record. This State is responsible for production of sufficient quantity of foodgrains to meet the requirements of the nation and this State is being ignored.

There is another problem. The harvesting of paddy has been delayed because of the irrational and stiffy attitude of the Planning Commission. Pun-

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]
 jab needs more combines. During the peak season, labour is in short supply. The Planning Commission has been having stiffy attitude with the result that sufficient combines are not available to the farmers. This has resulted in delay in harvesting. On the other hand, sowing of rabi crop is in full swing. During this period, the diesel is in short supply and this has disturbed the sowing operations. The small and marginal farmers are specially facing a great hardship. Every small and marginal farmer cannot maintain a pair of bullocks. In Punjab, instead of keeping a pair of bullocks, the small and marginal farmers hire tractors at a nominal rate. Now, tractors are lying idle. Not to speak of farmers having eighteen or more than eighteen acres of land, even farmers having three acres of land are facing hardship. I would request the hon. Minister to ask the Defence Ministry to supply the high speed diesel especially to Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and wherever there is shortage. Wherever there is stock of high speed diesel, necessary directions should also be issued to make available these stocks to all these States.

Thirdly, I would end my speech with a note of warning, that not to speak of the present crisis, the people will face an acute shortage of high speed diesel in the thrashing season of June and July and I am sure, your Ministry will make timely arrangements meet that situation.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: At the outset, I must say that I do not agree with the figures given by the hon. Member with regard to the stocks of high speed diesel in Amritsar, Patiala, Kotkapura etc.

SHRI RAM MURTI (Barielly): That was only to lay emphasis on his point.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Whatever is said in this House affects the market outside more and more. Therefore, we should be very sure of what we claim to know. I quite agree that

somebody might have given these figures to the hon. Member.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I have got the paper with me.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: The paper does not contain our statement. I am prepared to send Shri Ramoowalia as a one-man commission to go and check up if the figures are correct.

My point is that the daily average sale in Punjab this year is more than what we gave last year. Punjab needs more and we are arranging to send more. Everyday trains are being rushed for this purpose. I am not going to ask the Defence Ministry to part with even one ounce of our defence requirements of HSD, but certainly, I would see that the requirements of the agriculturists in Punjab are met and they do not suffer on this account. Everyday, we are sending rake-full trains of diesel to Punjab, Haryana and to North-West UP and see that the filling station are supplied with enough oil. But I have made a request to the State Government. Instead of saying that such-and-such a station or depot does not have diesel oil, I would be very happy if when our State coordinators call on the Minister or Secretary, Civil Supplies every day—in Chandigarh with regard to Punjab and Haryana, in Lucknow with regard to Lucknow, in Bhopal with regard to Madhya Pradesh—the latter are able to tell them that in such-and-such city at such-and-such a petrol pump or bunk of diesel, diesel oil is not available. We will then be able to pinpoint the trouble. The figures here indicate the situation, I am not saying it is very comfortable, but shortages should not be a bother, provided day-to-day supplies are maintained by the farmers also

The hon. Member has said something about rationing in Punjab. If Punjab has introduced some informal rationing, it is only since 2 or 3 days that they had to do it. I hope that with the new arrivals, the situation

will be completely in hand, and there will be no loss, either in the harvesting of paddy or in the sowing of the rabi crop.

श्री ब्रजमूर्धन तिवारी (खलीलाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी जो बयान मंत्री महोदय ने दिया है, इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा अनुरोध है यह कि उन्होंने इसमें मध्य प्रदेश नहीं जोड़ा और उसके साथ साथ उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ पूर्वी जिले हैं जिनमें सारा उत्तर प्रदेश प्रभावित है। अभी मैं 19 तारीख को अपने जिले बस्ती में था वहां पर मैंने हर पेट्रोल पम्प पर यह देखा कि हजारों की तादाद में लोग डीजल और मिट्टी के तेल के लिये लाइनों में लगे हुए थे। गांव के किसान यह कह रहे थे कि साहब हम लोगों ने जनता पार्टी को पैसा दिया, वोट दिया और बक्सा रखवाया, मगर आज जब गेहूं की बुवाई का सीजन है, उस समय न तो पम्पिंग मीट चल पा रहा है और न लोग ट्रैक्टर चला पा रहे हैं।

हमारा इलाका बाढ़ग्रस्त है, वहां पर गांव के बरीब लोगों को लालटेन, डिबरी व दिया तक जलाने के लिये तेल का इंतजाम नहीं है। इसके साथ ही पूर्ण के जिलों में छोटी लाइन है, लेकिन वहां पर बेयर-हाउसिंग कार्पोरेशन के भंडार गृह नहीं बनाये गये जिससे लोगों का खाद मिल सके। उत्तर प्रदेश में जो खाद लोगों को दिया जा रहा है, वह कांडला से आ रहा है। आप कल्पना कीजिये कि कांडला बन्दरगाह से जो विदेशी खाद आये वहां उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वी जिलों में ट्राम्पोट की दिक्कत होने के कारण कैसे पहुंच पायेगा ?

आज ट्राई खाद का सबसे ज्यादा जरूरत है। जाने वाले 10 दिन के बाद यूरिया खाद की जरूरत पड़ेगी। पर वहां पर यह सारा संकट है, इसलिये मैं भ्रष्ट करना चाहता हूं कि वहां पर प्लानिंग की कमी है ट्रांसपोर्ट की योजना की कमी है और साथ ही साथ डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन की व्यवस्था की कमी है। इस समय यह सब चीजें वहां मिलनी चाहियें क्योंकि यही सीजन है। अगर 10 दिन निकल जायेंगे और उसके बाद चाहे आप पूरे प्रदेश को डीजल से बहा दें तो उसकी कोई उपयोगिता नहीं रहेगी और खाद की भी कोई उपयोगिता नहीं रहेगी।

इसलिये मैं मंत्री जी से सीधा सवाल करना चाहूंगा कि क्या यह सही है कि एक्सपर्ट कमेटी के तमाम विशेषज्ञों ने यह राय दी कि हमारी स्टोरेज कपेसिटी को बढ़ाने के लिये तत्काल कोई ऐसा उपाय किया जाना चाहिये जिससे इस ग्रहम बुवाई के समय में हम पर्याप्त मात्रा में स्टोर कर सकें और अपने डीजल या पेट्रोलियम शॉकट्स का ताकि जरूरत के समय या किसी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय कमी के समय कोई सीधा असर न हो ?

दूसरी बात यह है कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के जिले में खाद मूहध्या कराने के लिये क्या व्यवस्था की जा रही है क्योंकि हमारे जिले में इसकी बहुत आवश्यकता है ? मैं 19 तारीख की बात बताता हूं कि वहां के हमारे अधिकारियों ने कहा कि वहां पर 1 लाख लिटर

डीजल की प्रतिदिन आवश्यकता है। इस समय 1:0 हजार लीटर से भी कम वहां पर उपलब्ध हो रहा है। बड़े डीलर्स वहां पर गड़बड़ कर रहे हैं, छोटे डीलरों का काम यह नहीं है। बड़े डीलर्स स्टोर कर रहे हैं, छोटे डीलर्स की न कुव्वत है और न हिम्मत है कि वह ऐसा करें। मेरे जिले में ऐसे 3 डीलरों का पकड़ा गया, मगर उसके बाद भी एक बंद डीलर भी हमारे जिले में उपलब्ध नहीं हो पा रहा है। यह बड़े अफसरों, बड़े डीलरों और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय कमोशन एजेंटों की एक बड़ी कांस्प्रोरेसी है। ये तीनों मिल कर इस देश में एक आर्टिफिशियल स्कैसिटी पैदा करना चाहते हैं, जिसका सीधा असर इस देश के किसानों पर पड़ रहा है।

खाद में मिलावट का भी बड़ी समस्या है। सरकारी गोदामों में जो खाद है, उसमें मिलावट है। किसानों को घटिया किस्म का खाद मिल रहा है, जिससे उन लोगों को बहुत बड़ा नुकसान होगा। मंत्री महोदय इन समस्याओं पर भी विचार करें।

श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा : माननीय सदस्य ने खाद में मिलावट का जो प्रश्न उठाया है, मैं अपने साथी कृषि मंत्री, का ध्यान उसका और आकृष्ट कर दूंगा।

मैं माननीय सदस्य की राय से सहमत हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वांचल में हमारी तेल के भंडार की क्षमता स्टोरेज कपेसिटी, पूरी नहीं है और वितरण व्यवस्था पर उसका कुप्रभाव पड़ता है। उस को ठीक करने के लिए हम चेष्टा करेंगे। माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है कि वहां कुछ डीलर पकड़े गये हैं, मगर फिर भी तेल नहीं मिलता है। इससे तो कुछ और ही बात सिद्ध होती है। इससे हमारी सप्लाई की व्यवस्था की गड़बड़ी हमारे सामने आती है। अगर डीलरों की तरफ से कुछ गड़बड़ी होती, तो उनके पकड़ जाने के बाद तेल मिल जाता। हम इस सारी स्थिति को देख रहे हैं। इस बयान में यह कमी रह गई है कि हम पूर्वांचल के पूरे आंकड़े नहीं दे पाये हैं। लेकिन मैं माननीय सदस्य को वचन देना चाहता हूं कि पूर्वांचल के बारे में भी हम चिंतित हैं और हम वहां पूरी मात्रा में तेल भेजने की चेष्टा करेंगे और तेल की कमी के कारण कोई हानि नहीं हो पायेगी।

12.52 hrs

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON
THE TABLE

TENTH REPORT

SHRI DWARIKADAS PATEL (Amreli) : I beg to present the Tenth Report of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table.

12.54 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I beg to move the following:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd November, 1978."

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I beg to move this amendment to the motion:

"That the Report be referred back to the Committee for substantial increase in the time allotted for discussion on motion regarding recent communal riots in different parts of the country."

MR. SPEAKER: The House can always do it; the House has the power. You need not send it back.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Please allow me to make a submission. The Business Advisory Committee has suggested five hours for the discussion on this motion. It is my submission with all the force at my command that these five hours are totally inadequate, substantially inadequate to consider a situation which involves the life, honour and property of the minority community. The situation is very explosive and the very confidence of the minority community in the government and in the law and order machinery has been shaken. So serious is the situation. The motion gives only five hours. Hardly five per cent of the total Members...

MR. SPEAKER: That means hundred hours.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Hardly five per cent of the total Members of the House will be able to participate, if concrete suggestions are to be given. The discussion has not only to be light bearing; it has

also to be fruit bearing. So explosive is the situation, so serious is the situation that in Aligarh hand-grenades with Indian military markings were used to blast the houses of the minority community by RSS hooligans... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not using this occasion for making a speech?

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: I shall never do it. I am pointing out the seriousness of the motion that we are going to consider. There is immediate need for a total ban on the activities of the R.S.S.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot use this occasion to make a speech.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: In order to point out the seriousness of the motion...

MR. SPEAKER: For pointing it out, you make a speech!

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Concrete measures will have to be suggested to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned that fact.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: My submission is, 5 hours are not sufficient. I want to convince the House...

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned it. It is a big subject.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: I must be allowed to have my say in the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowed to make a speech on this. You have mentioned the fact.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: I have every right to explain my amendment to the House. You pointed out that the House can later on increase the time. But I am not here moving the amendment for a mere marginal adjustment of time. I have asked for a substantial increase because serious points will have to be

considered while asking for a ban on the activities of the R.S.S. (*Interruptions*). I have moved that the report be referred back to the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned that.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: As I pointed out, in these five hours, not even 5 per cent of the members can be allowed to speak. (*Interruptions*) Allow me to speak. I have never interrupted. I have moved a proper amendment to this motion.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned the amendment. It will be considered.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: For the adoption of my amendment, I want to convince the House. Therefore, I seek your protection in order to be able to convince the House. I have never interrupted here in a wrong manner. I have taken the floor of the House with your consent and I am moving a proper amendment. The explosive situation that has been created has to be considered. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you time to make your point. I can allow no further. Mr. Faleiro.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: I request the Government and the House to accept my amendment. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): With utmost deference, I beg to move:

"That in item No. 7, which concerns the motion by Shri Y. B. Chavan regarding the present international situation, the time may be increased from 5 to 8 hours."

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chavan himself has agreed to 5 hours initially: I have talked the matter over with him.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I personally feel and many of us do feel that the time should be increased, the reason being that this Government has been in power for the last about two years and up to this date, there has not been any substantial discussion on its foreign policy. In the meanwhile, our hon. Vajpayeeji, with all the rhetoric and brilliance at his command, has been making one type of statements here while the actual foreign policy has been different. My submission to you and to the hon. House is that under the cover of 'genuine non-alignment' there has been a tilt towards the United State and Western Powers which are even influencing our internal policies in the domain of industrial relations, in the domain of industrial policy, technological and scientific policy. Just a photographic illustration. The recent appearance of an observer of the Indian Government at the NATO exercises suggests the formation of a new Washington-Peking-New Delhi axis. To clarify this, a larger discussion of not less than 8 hours will be required.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to refer the Report back to the Business Advisory Committee for substantial increase in the time allotted for discussion on motion regarding recent communal riots in different parts of the country as suggested by Shri Banatwala? Those who are in favour of this may please stand up.

Some hon. Members stood up in their seats.

MR. SPEAKER: Those who are against it may please stand up.

A large number of hon. Members stood up in their seats.

MR. SPEAKER: As the number of hon. Members who are against this amendment, is more, the amendment is rejected.

The motion was negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up the amendment of Shri Faleiro. Is it the pleasure of the House to refer the Report back to the Business Advisory Committee for allotting more time on the motion by Shri Y. B. Chavan regarding present international situation?

Those who are in favour of this may please stand up.

Some hon. Members stood up in their seats.

MR. SPEAKER: Those who are against it, may please stand up.

A large number of hon. Members stood up in their seats.

MR. SPEAKER: As the hon. Members who are against this amendment is more, the amendment is rejected.

The motion was negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: It is the pleasure of the House to accept the Report of the Business Advisory Committee? Those who are against it, please stand up.

Some hon. Members stood up in their seats.

MR. SPEAKER: Those who are in favour of it, please stand up.

A large number of hon. Members stood in their seats

MR. SPEAKER: As the number of hon. Members who are in favour of it is more, the motion is adopted.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): I want division on this. *(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: No. Nothing is recorded.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): As far as I recollect, the general practice in this House is that when the Report of the Business

Advisory Committee comes to the House, it is never voted upon because of the fact that various parties and points of view are well represented in that Committee....

MR. SPEAKER: But still objections are raised.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Therefore, my request to my friends is that we should not really allow the motion to be pressed to a division. After having got the points of view heard, the matter should have been allowed to rest there, and the Report should have been accepted. Then the House is always free and entitled to extend time on any motion or discussion at any time.

MR. SPEAKER: I have been repeatedly saying that.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to sit for another five minutes to enable the introduction of the Bill?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: All right; we will sit for another five minutes.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That question has already been decided by the House. I am not allowing any further discussion on that.

(Interruptions)

ANTI-APARTHEID (UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION) BILL

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BHARI VAJPAYEE): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the crime of Apartheid.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Subramaniam Swamy, are you opposing the introduction?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay, North-East): I have given notice under rule 72.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you only if you are opposing the introduction of the Bill. Nothing else is allowed.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: How can I say that I oppose the Bill without first making some comments?

MR. SPEAKER: You must first say "I am opposing the Bill". Only then I allow you.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Can I explain.....

MR. SPEAKER: No, I will not allow it. The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the international Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.05 p.m. **13.05 hrs.**

(The Lok Sabha adjourned for launch till five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock)

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are supposed to take up the discussion on the floods at 2 O'Clock, but there are some matters under rule 377. Shall we dispose of them before we take up the floods discussion? **Shri N. C. Jain.**

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Maintenance of temples and statues in Khajuraho.

श्री निर्मल चन्द्र जैन (सिवनी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अन्तर्गत अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्त्व के निम्नलिखित विषय का उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ:—

मैं अपनी खजुराहो गया बा। वह स्थाव बिदेशी पर्यटकों में बहुत ही लोकप्रिय हो रहा है और इस कारण यह बहुत आवश्यक हो गया है कि उस के मंदिर व मूर्तियां किसी भी प्रकार से नष्ट न होने पावें मैंने देखा कि मन्दिर व मूर्तियों पर रसायन का लेप हो रहा है। शायद पिछले कुछ वर्षों से यह लेप हो रहा है। उस रसायन लेप का परिणाम यह हुआ कि धीरे-धीरे मंदिर के कुछ भागों व मूर्तियों में सीलन आने लगी है और भारी तपती जेट में भी वे सूखती नहीं हैं, गीली ही रहती हैं। इस कारण अब किन्हीं किन्हीं मूर्तियों में से पत्ते भी उधड़ने लगे हैं। इस कारण मंदिर व मूर्तियों के स्थायित्व को खतरा उत्पन्न हो गया है जो कि एक गंभीर राष्ट्रीय समस्या है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि कई मंदिरों में उनकी पीठ पर मूर्तियां आड़ी तिरछी चिपका दी गई हैं। जहां एक ओर हम बिदेशी पर्यटकों को अपनी एक हजार वर्ष पूर्व की अपूर्व कला दिखाते हैं, वहीं दूसरी ओर उन्हें यह भी दिखता है कि दस-पच्चीस वर्ष पूर्व के हमारे लोग इतने अकलात्मक थे कि मूर्ति सीधा लगाना भी नहीं जानते थे। अतः आवश्यक है कि पुरातत्व विभाग इस ओर ध्यान दे और गलतियां शीघ्र सुधारे।

(ii) Need for reorganisation of distribution pattern of soft coke for Southern States.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM (Triuchendur): Supplies of soft coke to the four Southern States have virtually dried up. Tamil Nadu got only 1,000 tonnes of soft coke in April last, while Karnataka and Kerala haven't been supplied any quantity for the past several months.

This step-motherly attitude shown to Southern States in soft coke supplies has been deeply resented by the State Governments. Their repeated representations to the Union Energy Ministry and Coal India Ltd., have not evoked any favourable response so far.

It appears that the current distribution pattern is heavily biased in favour of the Northern States. The average monthly quantum of distribution of soft coke to various States in the last six months is as follows:

Bihar-6 rakes (one rake means 1,000 tonnes); U.P.—12 rakes; Punjab—7 rakes; Haryana—3 rakes; Orissa—2 rakes, Himachal Pradesh—1 rake; Delhi—22 rakes; West Bengal—13 rakes; Maharashtra—3 rakes; Andhra—3 rakes; Tamil

[Shri K. T. Kosalram]

Nadu—nil; Kerala—nil; Karnataka—nil.

Government should immediately re-organise the distribution pattern of soft coke and ensure adequate supplies of soft coke to the Southern States. In any case, the present discrimination against the Southern States must be ended.

(ii) Reported danger being faced by coal field areas after the rains and floods.

SHRI ROBIN SEN (Asansol): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, I make the following statement on a matter of urgent public importance.

After the rains and floods, the coal field areas are facing yet another serious danger, that is, subsidence of land over the mines. Knowledgeable sources are seriously concerned about such possibilities, particularly as the soil dries up. 25 such places are thickly populated, namely, Jamuria Bazar, Ranijung, Barakar, Kundue Bazar of Kulti, Barachak, Fatepur, Haripur, Jemahari, Khairadanga, Aluthia, Kalipahari, Bharatchak, Palashban, Chotadimo, Kuardihi, Central Kenda, etc.

Total population in these areas is about 4 lakhs. About 1500 inhabitants from Khas Kajora area had to be evacuated recently following subsidence and development of cracks. Before the nationalisation of coal mines, the erstwhile owners had resorted to slaughter mining for huge profits and yet did not do the obligatory operations like sand stowing or timbering in these mines. The fear of subsidence has its roots here. The most distressing point is that during emergency, in the name of higher production the same kind of slaughter mining was started and that has enhanced the danger.

(iv) Reported agitation by the Employees of General Insurance Corporation.

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY (Calcutta South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, with your permission, under rule 377, I would like to make the following statement:

Refusal of the management of the General Insurance Corporation to negotiate with the representatives of the Union for more than 18 months now on the basis of a character presented by them and the resultant harassment of the employees.

The suspension of the entire union leadership in South India and consequent harassment through arrest etc.

It is common knowledge that the management of 106 Indian and foreign general insurance companies were taken over by the Government on 13th May 1971 which were subsequently nationalised by the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972.

There are three trade unions viz. the National Confederation of General Insurance Employees, the General Insurance Employees, 'All India Association and the All India Insurance Employees' Association. The National Confederation of General Insurance Employees is independent of any political affiliation and is the strongest. The management of New India, it is learnt with the support of GIC, are not happy with this mighty strength of one organisation and for obvious reasons, it is reported, they are out to weaken the said organisation by patronising other rival trade unions in the industry.

The employees were hopeful that on nationalisation of the industry, the management of a nationalised public sector undertaking will give a fair deal to them in accordance with the declared labour policy of the Government. Unfortunately, these vested interests and feudal elements who are heading the industry have borne a grudge against the employees' trade union for the following reasons:—

(a) Those persons who were in power during pre-nationalisation days were exposed by the employees' trade union for various malpractices and anti-national acts. The organisation continues to expose the misdeed of the management even now.

(b) Employees' trade unions were responsible for CBI raids on the offices and residences of various corrupt officials which had received

large scale publicity in national dailies and weeklies.

(c) In view of their fraudulent acts as above, the employees had demanded the removal of such corrupt executives and unfortunately the Government retained them in the respective places and when they were not even changed and/or transferred from their original positions, they are now emboldened to freely indulge in fraudulent acts and they are also bent upon liquidating the employees' trade union for what was done in the pre-nationalisation days.

Despite this, the following atrocities were committed on the employees during the Emergency in 1975 and 1976:—

(a) Provident Fund contribution was reduced from 8 per cent of the gross to 10 per cent of the basic (which in effect means less than 6-1/4 per cent of the gross which is the statutory minimum);

(b) Sick leave was reduced from 30 days to 15 days per calendar year;

(c) LTS facilities were reduced drastically in case of low paid employees;

(d) Canteen subsidies were stopped case of Class III and IV employees but the same continued to top executives of the company; and

(e) Fundamental rights of the employees were taken away by imposing on the employees obnoxious CDA rules.

Though the management was inviting the Regional Secretaries of the said Federation for finalisation of pending problems through negotiations, this practice was abruptly stopped.

After the withdrawal of the Emergency, the Federation adopted a resolution urging upon the Management to settle all pending issues by inviting the Regional Secretaries to the Head Office. In spite of repeated reminders thereafter, the Management turned a deaf ear to the legitimate request.

At present all employees all over India are on agitation. For adopting

legitimate, democratic and peaceful methods for ventilating the grievances, the Management of NEW INDIA has indulged in the following cases of victimisation/unfair labour practices:

(i) The entire Managing Committee members of the Southern Region Employees' Association are suspended from services on and from 9th November 1978;

(ii) The important functionaries at Bangalore, Coimbatore, Goa and other places are also suspended from services, bringing the total number of suspension to 21.

(iii) Efforts are also being made to suspend the General Secretary and one of the Joint Secretaries.

(iv) The company has issued circulars advising the employees that they will not be paid any salary for the month of November 1978 though there are no cases of work stoppage;

(v) The company refuses to regularise the service of 67 temporary hands in the Eastern Region against the permanent vacancies though the said temporary employees have completed written test and interview conducted by the Management.

(vi) The constitutional and legitimate trade union activities of the employees are stopped by the management by obtaining injunction from the court and by falsely implicating the active members in criminal cases;

(vii) In order to prevent the organisation from functioning, the Management has illegally locked up the trade union offices in Madras;

(viii) The Company has taken a decision in its Board of Directors' meeting to effect total and/or partial lock-out.

An immediate amicable settlement of all issues in dispute is possible if the Industry takes the following steps:

(a) Withdrawal of all suspension orders;

[Prof. Dilip Chakravarty]

(b) Withdrawal of false criminal and civil proceedings implicating the employees;

(c) Withdrawal of injunction restraining our union from carrying on peaceful agitation for redressal of grievances;

(d) Stopping the Management from implementing the threatened wage cut for the period of agitation;

(e) Immediate absorption of 67 temporary employees against declared permanent vacancies in the Eastern region;

(f) Immediate negotiations on all pending problems of the employees all over the country.

I urge the Management of the Industry as also the Ministers concerned to take expeditious steps to resolve the deadlock by sitting round the table and having a discussion with representatives of the union.

14.23 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE. ANNUAL RAVAGES OF FLOODS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we will proceed with the discussion on floods in various parts of the country. I call Mr. Tridib Chaudhuri.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): Before we start the discussion on floods I want to represent—of course the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation is not there—that the problem is that the demand of the flood affected States is for more finance and more loan assistance. So Ministers for Finance and Planning should be there.

MR. SPEAKER: There are several Ministers here. I hope they will convey it.

Now Mr. Chaudhuri.

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI (Barrackpore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, 1978 has been a very bad and unfortunate year for floods all over the country. From Kashmir, Punjab and Haryana, from Delhi and Uttar Pra-

desh up to Bihar, Assam and West Bengal, all have been more or less affected—some very badly and some less so—by the floods. Similarly, only recently, this month in South India, in Kerala we have had very heavy rainfalls, land-slides and floods which caused serious damage and havoc. But as the time is limited. I will not go into the details of floods in other regions: I will mainly concentrate on some aspects of the floods in West Bengal which, it is generally agreed, has been the worst sufferer this year. As a matter of fact, the damage that has been caused to West Bengal this year has laid the entire States economy prostrate, and it is not known when the State can again be put back on its feet at least so far as the economy is concerned.

This year, West Bengal suffered three waves of floods. Of course, floods started, as usual, from the onset of monsoons, from June. But the real, serious floods occurred in three waves: first in late August, then in mid-September; and then in late September and early October.

So far as the mid-August floods are concerned, they affected very seriously only two districts, Murshidabad and Malda and were due, mainly, to onrush of water from the Ganga downstream Farakka in several areas of Murshidabad and Malda districts.

But before the State could just revive from the shocks administered by these floods, in mid-September came heavy rainfall and heavy water releases from Damodar, Kansavati and Swarnarekha dams which badly affected the lower Damodar area and certain areas in Midnapore District; the Ghatal sub-division, in fact the Ghatal town itself, and some parts of Howrah district were completely submerged and inundated.

Then the last wave of floods, flash floods of a frightful nature, on an unprecedented scale, took place from the night of 26th September and lasted upto the first few days of October, which practically destroyed nine more

district of West Bengal. It can be said that one-fourth or one-fifth of the areas of the flood-affected districts have been completely destroyed.

It is useful to recount the amount of the damage and the people effected. Some 20 million people have been affected in the 12 districts of West Bengal by these floods. Officially it has been admitted that only 1,000 people have lost their lives, but there are reports—which have also been admitted by the Government—that thousands have been swept away and no trace has been found of them. 15 lakh heads of cattle have been destroyed. Two million tonnes worth of standing kharif food crops and also large quantities of jute crops had been destroyed. So far as houses are concerned, as you know, in the rural areas, particularly in the flood-affected areas, mofussil areas, most of the houses are mud-built, and with the first onset of floods, all these mud-built houses collapse. As a result, eleven lakhs of houses have been totally destroyed; five to six lakhs of houses have been severely damaged and about two lakhs partly damaged. In all 18 lakhs of houses have to be rebuilt.

Of the State roads—I do not take account here of the National Highways—the Bombay Highway which extends from Calcutta to Bombay through Midnapore was heavily damaged; then the National Highway 34 which goes from Calcutta to North Bengal and Assam and which is practically one of the lifelines of communications between Assam, North Bengal and Calcutta port was severely damaged at several places. But, that apart, out of 12,000 km. of the State roads, nearly 4452 km. of State roads were damaged.

In railway it has been estimated as a first assessment that railway tracks were also damaged and railways suffered a loss of Rs. 30 crores.

A number of irrigation bunds have been broken in some places swept away and no assessment has yet been made of what is the financial loss involved.

Schools—primary schools: Some 6000 schools have been completely destroyed and 7000 schools buildings have been badly damaged. 461 Secondary Schools destroyed and 681 damaged. So you can easily imagine the extent of loss that has been caused.

The people in most of these flood-affected areas are now homeless and workless and something has to be done immediately to provide them with some kind of a shelter for winter is approaching. Moreover, they have to be given work. Some attempts should be made to make up the loss of Kharif grains by increased sowing of Rabi crops. All these have to be taken up and that naturally needs money by way of relief, by way of gratuitous relief and by way of other kinds of relief assistance for the people to get back on their feet.

Industry-wise, even the Calcutta-Howrah industrial area and the Asansol-Ranchi coal area, the Durgapur steel factory—all these were also very badly affected and crores and crores of rupees have been lost. Now, all these things naturally need money and it is beyond the capacity of the State Government to find their own resources to foot the bill and that is why they have come to the Central Government with a request of Rs. 350 crores of assistance for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction work. They also wanted loan assistance from banks and financial institutions to the extent of Rs. 128 crores and they also sought 450,000 tonnes of foodgrains.

So far, as the hon. Minister stated in the other House, only Rs. 88 or 93 crores have been allotted of which Rs. 50 crores only have been released. The State Government says that they have not got more than Rs. 15 crores upto now. They wanted an ad hoc release of Rs. 30 crores but so far nothing additional has been released for the West Bengal Government on that account.

Over and above this what the West Bengal Government wanted, was this

[Shri Tridib Chaudhari.]

that even if all money could be released to them just now, the Centre should give them an idea as to the extent of assistance which West Bengal could claim or could expect from the Centre. On that point also, the Central Government has been totally reticent. They said that they had sent a Study Team and on their recommendation, they had made the first allotment of Rs. 88 to 93 crores. As the West Bengal Government go on spending the money, the Centre would send a further Study Team. On that basis, the rehabilitation and reconstruction work on a planned basis cannot be undertaken unless some idea is also given to the State Government about the total extent of money that they would get from the Centre. This is one aspect. I would now come to the other major aspect. That is about permanent flood protection and flood prevention measures. So far as the latest series of floods in West Bengal are concerned, they are of a peculiar nature and they have been caused by the deficiencies in the whole system of our dams. The DVC, Mayurakshi, Ajai, Kansavati and Subarnarekha dams most of which have not been built according to the plan that was originally made. It has been admitted by the hon. Minister in this House the other day in answer to a question that DVC dam system was originally planned on the basis of eight dams but only four dams with a limited reservoir capacity have been constructed because of various difficulties. Four more dams and four more reservoirs were needed to be constructed. They were not done. How could that be done now of course is a thing that has to be considered by experts. That will need a fresh study in depth into the whole occurrence of the floods this time. Unless that is done, these cannot be avoided. It is not merely a question of studying the DVC system of dams but the entire system of dams on the western side of West Bengal where the land gradually slopes off into the Bhagirathi. The entire drainage on this side of West

Bengal has to be done into in depth by a Committee of experts. West Bengal Government has appointed a Committee. But the terms of reference of that Committee are very limited. What I would suggest to the Central Government is to appoint a high-powered Committee of experts to go into the whole question of the drainage of West Bengal. On the one side there is Hooghly-Bhagirathi system which branches off from Ganga and on the other side there is entire Mayurakshi—Damodar—Ajay—Kansabati and Subarnarekha system where the water moves from West to East into Hooghly-Bhagirathi. Damodar was called a river of sorrow and DVC system was devised on the advice of Dr. Meghnad Saha and other scientists and experts who went into this question as a flood protection measure to and that sorrow. But, unfortunately, it so happened that the flood protection aspect was completely neglected. Not only that but even the aspects of drainage and siltage have been neglected. Even after the 1959 floods the West Bengal government appointed a committee of experts, the Mansingh Committee and the members of that committee were all leading irrigation and engineering experts of the country. They elaborately studied the whole question and submitted a comprehensive report. But unfortunately even that report has not been worked upon.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: Now, the problems have further accumulated and I would only conclude by saying that let the Central Government go into this whole question. It is not merely an issue between the State and the Centre. The future of the entire Calcutta industrial region, Bengal-Bihar coal region and the Asansol-Durgapur industrial region is at stake and until and unless we take remedial steps now and plan for the future then only God can save us. The hon'ble Minister knows that if

flood protection measures are not taken, then the day would not be far off—as Mr. Meghnad Saha had predicted—when Calcutta will completely get inundated and go under water and the whole of Bengal will stand destroyed. So, something should be done immediately.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Sir, what happened this year in the form of a calamity—natural calamity as it is called in this House—in the northern as well as southern areas of our country is not only unprecedented but if the word can be used, is something beyond the known memory of our country. When I was telling the Prime Minister that during the last one century such devastating floods have never occurred in our country, the Prime Minister himself corrected me by saying that according to information available even during the last five hundred years there had been no record of such devastating floods in the northern area and particularly in West Bengal.

Sir, it has been said that flood is a result of natural calamity meaning thereby due to excess rain. But I want to add that the havoc that has been caused and the misery that the people had to face was not due to natural calamity only but, if I am permitted to use the word, it was due to man-made calamity also. How would I use the word, man-made calamity? Can anyone in this House or anybody else imagine that in the heart of Calcutta, at the very heart of Calcutta city, water could accumulate to a height of about five feet or six feet? And it continues for days together! It happened in Calcutta. The whole city was completely under a deluge. Nobody could move out of his house, from one place to another. Even in the area of Calcutta University, all the shops were damaged, they were under flood waters. How could it happen? How could it happen that in Calcutta, due to rain, such water could accumulate that it would be completely flooded and the flood-waters could remain in the whole of Calcutta for

days together, paralysing its life, paralysing its transport, paralysing everything in Calcutta? How could it happen? There is only one answer. It was not due to flood water that came from the river only but due to local rain also. The only answer is, lack of drainage, lack of proper facility of drainage. There is no proper arrangement for drainage. If it had been there, then, perhaps for a few hours the waters would stagnate and then they would drain off. But it remained for days together completely paralysing the life of the whole of Calcutta, and you can call it, Greater Calcutta.

I will give you another instance. Yes. This time there was unnatural rain, excessive rain, unusual rain. The rivers could not carry the load of water; they could not carry the load of currents. Naturally whole areas were inundated. But what happened to the areas adjacent to the DVC? What happened to the areas adjacent to the Kangsabati dam, Mayrakshi and other smaller dams? Because, these dams could not contain the water. They were giving warnings to the people very often—not once, but several times, that they have to release the water. And suddenly the gush of water that they released washed away thousands of villages. It destroyed thousands of acres of land. It destroyed thousands of lives and also washed away so many people. How could it happen so? Is it not a man-made devastation, if I may say so? Is it not a fact that Prof. Meghnad Saha and other experts who were associated with DVC construction and construction of other dams in West Bengal, warned about it not once but several times, in writing. Even the report of Prof. Meghnad Saha has said this. Initially it was agreed that there should be 8 reservoirs so far as DVC was concerned but only 4 reservoirs were constructed. How is it possible for 4 reservoirs to contain the water when there is excessive rain? And it happened. They had to release water that had accumulated artificially by human agencies. This happened sud-

[Prof. Samar Guha.]

denly, not even gradually. I could understand it, it had happened gradually. But suddenly, in a gush, they released water, as a result of which devastation happened in West Bengal. It was an unprecedented devastation which occurred in West Bengal not due to excess of rain only but due to release of waters excessively from various dams particularly from DVC. Is it not a man-made devastation? We raised this issue several times even earlier. Prof. Meghnad Saha, when he was a Member of this House raised the matter not once but several times. He wanted the earlier Government saying: You have to build up several reservoirs in DVC and other dams. Otherwise, in the eventuality of excessive rain, there will be devastation. You will have to release water that will wash away thousands and thousands of acres of land. It will wash away thousands and thousands of villages. And it happened. Sir, what happened this year? No doubt it is a natural calamity. Major areas of our country have been devastated. It is necessary for the Government to find the fundamental requirements there. In reply to my question, when I raised it two days ago, whether the Government is going to institute a High Power Expert Committee—I emphasise the word 'Expert' Committee—the hon. Minister replied that it was not under consideration. They have constituted a team. What will this team do? You have to go in depth and very quickly to ascertain the causes of the floods as to what are the natural causes, whether they are due to defects in the construction of dams and embankments and also whether they are due to lack of desilting through rivers and channels. And for knowing the causes for the flood calamity, if you really want to find out the causes, you have immediately to appoint a High Power National Committee consisting of experts and that Committee should go into the causes, natural causes, essential causes, causes due to defective construction of dams and embank-

ments, causes due to silting of rivers and channels. All these causes have to be found out. Only then you can find out the solution. I would like to know from the Government whether that High Power Expert Committee is going to be instituted and whether the Government is going to issue instructions that within certain time-limit, within three or four months, this investigation, this examination in depth would be made and a report would be submitted to the Government. If it is submitted, I would like to know from the Government whether it is going to set up a National Fund, not leaving issues, not leaving the problems to the States—there are already problems in the States, inter-State problems and other problems pertaining to the floods. Are the Government—going to set up a National Fund so that it can provide fund for flood control and flood calamities? From whatever sources they get fund, they would have to find the resources for that fund. It is for the Government to find out the ways and means. I think these are the two basic requirements for controlling this kind of national calamity or for avoiding the repetition of this kind of calamities involving huge damages and loss running to several crores of rupees, loss of lives, properties, etc. This is the essential requirement. The damages in crops, loss of live-stocks and loss of property have caused in different States. I think the representatives of the different States will take up the matter relating their States. But let me tell you, please do not misunderstand me when I concentrate my observation only on West Bengal, because I find effective representatives are there who will take up the cause of Bihar, who will take the cause of U.P., who will take up to cause of Haryana and who will take up the cause of the Southern States. I have my equal sympathy for them but I have no proper knowledge on the basis of which I can talk about the loss, the damages, the loss of live-stock, the loss of human lives and also other

damages in those States. For that reason, you kindly excuse me if I only talk about West Bengal. But I have to concentrate mainly on West Bengal. I hope the representatives from other States will take up the cause of their States. About West Bengal, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that in the figures he has given it is stated that the loss of live-stocks is about two lakhs and odd in the case of West Bengal, in the case of U.P. it is about 7,000 or so. The cropped areas affected due to floods is 13.23 lakh hectares in West Bengal and the loss of human lives is 813. In the case of U.P. the loss of human lives is 702. You have also given other figures. Just now my friend Shri Tridib Chaudhuri was giving figures in this regard. The figures have come in West Bengal newspapers. Almost every day, day-in and day-out, these figures have been published in the West Bengal press but they are completely different. There is a wide gap. Whereas you have given the figure of human lives lost as 813, it is well known that several thousand people lost their lives in West Bengal due to floods. Some of them are stated as missing. Then, what about the livestock? You have not given information about the loss of residential houses and the acreage of crops lost. In West Bengal, out of eighteen districts, twelve were completely flooded and devastated and I do not know whether the acreage of loss that has been given here is correct. From where did you get this data? Is it from the Government of West Bengal or is it your team that has collected this data? This question needs to be answered, otherwise there would be lot of trouble, because you will say that this is the requirement and on that basis you will make some allotment of resources etc., but the estimate of the West Bengal Government will be different. As I said, I want to know from you your estimate of loss of acreage of land loss of crops, loss of livestock, loss of human lives, loss of residential houses, loss of roads, feeder roads etc. How did you arrive

at this estimate? It is absolutely essential to understand the extent of problem and for tackling the problem of relief and rehabilitation of West Bengal.

I want to know from the Government what measures they have taken for giving relief to the flood victims of West Bengal. But before that I want to have the information with regard to the estimate of losses. What are the resources that you have provided to the Government of West Bengal and the amount that you have provided to them for relief and rehabilitation? What are the kinds of relief given to them? There is a lot of confusion in West Bengal and there is a lot of criticism there. It is very interesting of note that the Central Government claims to have done many things: but perhaps there is lack of communication and that is so much that you have done, we do not know. We come to know only through the press. I, therefore, want to know what is the extent of resources that you have offered for rehabilitation of the flood victims to the Government of West Bengal. What is the foreign aid that you have got for flood victims and how much of it has been given to the Government of West Bengal? How much aid has come from other States for West Bengal? What is the aid that you got for relief and rehabilitation of flood victims from our national and various international humanitarian organizations that are working in West Bengal? All this is necessary for us to know.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are twenty names from the Janata Party itself and I do not think even half of these Members will get a chance to speak. Please conclude now, otherwise even half will not get a chance.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA: You have extended some financial assistance to them and you have given this as Plan advance. If money gets exhausted for the relief and flood work, and this

[Prof. Samar Guha.]

money gets reduced from the Plan allocations, how will the poor West Bengal State be able to deal with its problems during the Plan period? Although you were saying that there is a recommendation of the Sixth Finance Commission, yet it is the demand not only from the West Bengal but other States also that this money should not be considered as plan advance, but it should be considered as a grant or some other kind of loan. Otherwise it is impossible for the States to tackle the problem of relief and rehabilitation of the flood victims.

Lastly, I want to say that a Central team should be sent there. It should stay there, and make an assessment of the requirements and the extent of damage, loss etc.—not on the basis of what the West Bengal Government says. You should have your own report, own assessment and own examination. On its basis, you should give the loans. The Prime Minister has himself said that these people have to be given all kinds of help; we have to see that it is rendered in time. But we have also to see who will make that estimate and ensure that necessary steps are taken at a proper time and in a proper way. A central team should be sent to West Bengal. It should remain there and guide and help the West Bengal Government. Help should be given in time.

15 hrs.

In conclusion, I would say that this flood relief and rehabilitation is a national programme. We should not look at it from a party standpoint. But very unfortunately—I am very sorry to make this observation here—although the Prime Minister made a formal appeal to the West Bengal Government that this problem should be looked upon as a national problem, that there should be no party considerations brought in, that the people's organizations should come together and evolve a national policy and na-

tional programme and that there should be a national move for relief and rehabilitation, the West Bengal Government has not properly and adequately responded to it. In UP, Bihar and other places, they have formed all Party committees and national committees, at all levels. (Interruptions). In West Bengal, unfortunately, they have agreed to form State level and district level committees, but not panchayat—and village-level ones. What is the function of the State or district level committees? They are merely advisory committees; but the real implementation of relief work etc. will be done at the village and panchayat levels. They argue that they have given all the responsibility to the elected people. People in the zila parishads are also elected people. Why, then, did they agree to form district committees? When similar is the case at the State level, why did they agree to form a State-level committee? It is on the basis of party considerations that the relief and rehabilitation work is being done. This is being said not only by the opponents, but also by the allies of the CPM. I would make an appeal to my CPM friends (Interruptions) to tell the State Government: "Let us make it a national effort, let us set up relief and rehabilitation organizations at each and every level, including village level, so that we can tackle the human problem with a national perspective". Whether we are in the state committee or district committee, we have to make a reconsideration of our policy.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): I was hearing Prof. Samar Guha's speech with rapt attention for the simple reason that he was suggesting an expert committee being appointed by the Central Government, to find out the cause of flood havocs occurring every year in this country.

Suppose there is an expert committee appointed. But my difficulty is that my problem cannot be solved. I think it was just a year ago I stood up in this august House to give details of the cyclone havoc that brought

about in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. Now, this year also, exactly at the same time, we faced a cyclone which, if it was not of the same magnitude, had brought about an immense loss to the people of Lakshadweep. Last year, it was more or less confined to Lakshadweep Island where almost one lakh coconut trees fell and most of the houses were uprooted. This time, almost every island was affected. Fortunately, when they got advance warning, people were moved to safer places and therefore there is no loss of life. Probably because of that, the Central Government is not taking note of the Island.

It is said that small is beautiful, but sometimes small is lost sight of. I am representing a constituency which is the smallest and I want to remind this August Body with lone voice about it. I must say that when it was reported in the Press about any calamity which was taking place in this country, most of our hon. Members used to give notices for Calling Attention, Short Notice Questions and what not. In this very case, I am the only person who gave notices for Calling Attention, Short Notice Question and under rule 377. I had exhausted all these four sources and I could not get an opportunity to speak in this House. I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to bring the matter before the Government.

I sent a lengthy telegram to the hon. Prime Minister who is also in-charge of the Home Portfolio; and he is directly concerned with our welfare. I have not received any reply. I also met the concerned Minister and the authorities. So far, no relief operations have been started in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. The worst affected islands are Agathi, Ameni, Kiltan, Kadamath, Kavarath, Androth, Chetlat and Bitra. Bitra is a small island having 26 acres of land. You can just imagine the plight of the people where most of the houses were collapsed and trees uprooted and people are without food. The tragedy is that this

is a small island and we do not have even a wireless set. In case of cyclone or any other natural calamity, they have to send a message to Chetlat Island from where I get a message.

First of all, I am not here expressing my anger or complaint against anybody, but they are not taking any note of these things. We are just treated as if we are not a part of the country. This is my complaint against this Government. We are far away from Delhi and we do not have our own elected local government. You sent a team to Kerala for assessing the quantum of loss of life and property. Lakshadweep is just 150 to 200 miles away from Kerala. You have not directed them to proceed to Lakshadweep in order to find any loss. That is my complaint.

The exact quantum of loss is being assessed. In Agathi alone thousands of coconut trees have been uprooted. Hundreds of buildings including Government quarters collapsed. Equal number of roofs have blown off. Rice godowns, hospitals, co-operative society buildings, mosques need major repairs.

In Kiltan, a large portion of the island has already been washed away. One or two lines of coconut trees have already been taken away by sea.

Because of our smallness in size, because we are far away from the mainland, our grievances are not heard. I appeal to the Government to rush help to Lakshadweep immediately. Firstly, ration should be freely supplied. Secondly, coconut seedings must be immediately provided. Thirdly building materials should be immediately rushed to.

I also wanted to know the relief measures, if any, provided so far and the exact amount of relief provided and the exact amount of further help that Government proposes to give, if they have any estimate.

[Shri P. M. Sayeed.]

I do not want to go into the details as many more members from my party want to speak. I only appeal that the cyclone affected people in Lakshadweep must be provided material as well as financial assistance immediately without further delay.

I want the hon. Minister, when he gives reply, to kindly give all the facts and figures of assistance already given. As usual, in this House, we are ignored—especially the union territory of Lakshadweep.

I want that while giving his reply the hon. Minister may at least mention what help has so far been given or rushed and what are the relief measures that are going to be rushed.

With this I conclude.

श्री चन्द्रशेखर सिंह (वाराणसी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस साल जो बाढ़ की विनाश-लीला हम देश में हुई उस का कोई दूसरा उदाहरण नहीं है। अब की बार यह शताब्दी की सबसे बड़ी बाढ़ रही है। हर साल बाढ़ के मवाल पर हम सदन में चर्चा होती है और वह चर्चा एक रस्मी तौर पर हो कर रह जाती है। यह नहीं सोचा जाता कि आखिर उन कारणों को ढूँढा जाय जिन कारणों से यह बाढ़ घाती है। उन कारणों को ढूँढ कर उन का समाधान करने की तरफ कोई कदम नहीं उठाया जाता।

इस बार की बाढ़ दो तरह की थी। एक तो प्रकृति प्रदत्त थी, दूसरी मानव प्रदत्त भी थी। मानव की गलतियों के कारण भी कही कही बाढ़ घाई है। प्रकृति ने तो अपना प्रकोप दिखाया ही, लेकिन मानव का प्रकोप कुछ कम नहीं रहा क्योंकि इस देश में बांध बनाने का मवाल और पानी की निकासी का मवाल राजनीति से जुड़ गया था। जहाँ पर देश के राजनैतिक क्षितिज से ऊपर उठकर के देश की दृष्टि में बाढ़ के मवाल को देखने की बात होनी चाहिए थी, वहाँ बैसा न हो कर के राजनैतिक घरातल पर बातें होती रहीं और यही कारण था कि एक जमाने में एक भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री ने बांधों के निर्माण पर कहा था कि यह रचना के मन्दिर हैं। लेकिन वह रचना के मंदिर इस तरह से बने उसी साल के अंदर कि पंजाब के अंदर बहुत बड़ा सलाब आया और पंजाब के लोग काफी तबाह और बरबाद हो गए। मैं आज इस सदन में अपने को सारे देश में बाढ़ से जो तबाही और बरबादी हुई है उसके साथ जोड़ते हुए परन्तु चूंकि समय कम है इसलिए मुख्य रूप से उत्तर प्रदेश के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश में लगभग सात सौ व्यक्तियों की जान गई है इस बाढ़ के कारण, लगभग साढ़े तीन लाख मकान ध्वस्त हो गए हैं, 75 लाख एकड़ भूमि में फसल नष्ट हुई है और 75 लाख एकड़ जमीन बाढ़

के पानी के नीचे आ गई। लगभग 50 जिले बाढ़ की चपेट में आये। 15 सौ करोड़ से 2 हजार करोड़ तक का नुकसान इस बाढ़ के कारण हुआ है। 1500 से 2000 पशु बाढ़ में मर गए। चार बार बाढ़ का प्रकोप हुआ। एक तो जुलाई के आखिर में और अगस्त के शुरू में बाढ़ का प्रकोप हुआ, फिर सितम्बर के शुरू में बाढ़ का प्रकोप हुआ, उसके बाद सितम्बर के मध्य में बाढ़ का प्रकोप हुआ और फिर उसके बाद सितम्बर के आखिर में बाढ़ का प्रकोप आया।

मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है कि जहाँ राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर बाढ़ का समाधान का रास्ता ढूँढ़ने के लिए सभी को मिलजुल कर काम करना चाहिए था उसके स्थान पर राजनीति की गई। हमारे बनारस में इस देश की भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री गई और उन्होंने कहा कि 18 महीने हों गए लेकिन जनता सरकार ने अभी तक बाढ़ की समस्या का कोई हल नहीं ढूँढा। यह बात कहना किसी भी लिहाज से शोभाजनक नहीं था। जब बाढ़ के कारण मानव परेशान और दुःखी हों उस समय भी यदि राजनीति खेसी जाये तो यह किसी प्रकार से शोभाजनक नहीं कहा जा सकता। तब मजबूर होकर मुझे भी कहना पड़ा था कि साढ़े 28 साल तक एक राजवंश के राज्य में इस बाढ़ की समस्या का कोई समाधान नहीं ढूँढा गया, गंगा और कावेरी को मिलाने का काम नहीं किया गया, कनहर नदी को रिहन्द में डैसे जोड़ने का काम नहीं किया गया और अब कहा जाता है कि 18 महीने में जनता सरकार ने बाढ़ की समस्या का कोई समाधान क्यों नहीं निकाला।

श्रीमन्, बाढ़ की विभीषिका हर साल बढ़ती जा रही है। जैसा कि कहा गया है, इस साल की बाढ़ इस शताब्दी की सबसे भयंकर बाढ़ थी और उससे भयंकर विनाशलीला हुई। इसका पहला कारण यह है कि इस देश में बांधों का जो निर्माण हुआ वह बांध सिल्टिंग होते होते ऊँचे उठते जा रहे हैं। नदियों की तह भी ऊँची उठती जा रही है। पहले जो नदियों का पानी पाटों के बीच में बहता था, वह पानी, नदियों के छिछले हो जाने के कारण, काफी दायरे में फैलकर बहता है। पिछले तीस वर्षों में नदियों को गहरा करने का कोई भी उपाय नहीं किया गया। इसी प्रकार से बांधों में जो सिल्टिंग होती है उसको दूर करने का भी कोई उपाय नहीं किया गया। इसके कारण नदी और जलाशय दिन प्रति दिन छिछले होते जा रहे हैं।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूँगा कि नदी और जलाशय जो छिछले होते जा रहे हैं उनको गहरा बनाने के लिये कोई योजना बनाई जाये। मेरा दूसरा निवेदन यह है कि जिस प्रकार से ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के लिए ब्रह्मपुत्र फ्लड कंट्रोल बोर्ड का निर्माण हुआ है उसी प्रकार से गंगा तथा यमुना के लिए गंगा फ्लड कंट्रोल बोर्ड व यमुना फ्लड कंट्रोल बोर्ड की स्थापना की जाये। इसके अभाव में उत्तर प्रदेश तथा बिहार की सरकारों को गंगा की बाढ़ से बचाव के लिए तथा उससे जो नुकसान होता है उससे निपटने के लिए हर साल लगभग 300 करोड़ रुपये खर्च करना पड़ता है जोकि प्रान्तीय सरकारों की हैसियत में नहीं है। इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि बाढ़ की समस्या को केन्द्र की सूची में जोड़ा जना

चाहिए। प्रान्तों के ऊपर इसको छोड़ना एक प्रकार के बाढ़ों के साथ खिलवाड़ करना होगा। जहाँ तक हमारी जानकारी है—उत्तर प्रदेश में अभी तक 25 करोड़ रुपया केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से पहुँचा है, जब कि उत्तर प्रदेश बंगाल से तीन गुना बड़ा है और दिल्ली से पचास गुना बड़ा है। उत्तर प्रदेश के पचास जिले बाढ़ से भयंकर रूप से प्रभावित हुए, लेकिन उस के बाद भी केवल 25 करोड़ रुपया केन्द्रीय सरकार ने भेजा। पश्चिमी बंगाल को, जैसा कल मंत्री महोदय ने राज्य सभा में बतलाया, 93 करोड़ रुपया दिया गया है, हमें उस पर कोई ऐतराज नहीं है, वह ठीक है, वहाँ भी काफ़ी बरबादी हुई है, उन को और भी ज्यादा रुपया दिया जाना चाहिये, लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश में जहाँ इतनी भयंकर बरबादी हुई है, केवल 25 करोड़ रुपया दिया जाना, किस न्यायसंगत आधार पर सही कहा जा सकता है? हमारी माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी से मांग है कि उत्तर प्रदेश को कम से कम 300 करोड़ रुपया तो इस समय की समस्या के निदान के हेतु और फ्लड की समस्या से पूरी तरह से निबटने के लिये 2000 करोड़ रुपया दिया जाना चाहिये।

आज हमारे सामने दो करोड़ लोगों के पुनर्वास का सवाल है। उन के घर गिर गये हैं। उन दो करोड़ लोगों में हरिजन और कमजोर जातियों के लोग ज्यादा हैं, क्योंकि इन के घर गांव के उन इलाकों में होते हैं जहाँ जमीन नीची होती है, जो नमी का इलाका होता है। बाढ़ का पानी जहाँ-जहाँ पहुँचता जाता है, उन के मकान ध्वस्त होते जाते हैं। इस लिये मेरी मांग है कि इस साल बाढ़ का जो लेवल था, उस लेवल से जमीन की ऊँचा कर के उन के लिये मकान बनाये जायें। तथा यह सारा खर्च केन्द्रीय सरकार वहन करे। बाढ़ के पानी के लेवल से कम से कम 5 फुट जमीन को ऊँचा करके उन को बसाने का काम होना चाहिए तथा मकान बनाने के लिये उन को कम ब्याज पर आवश्यक धन-राशि बैंकों से दिलवाई जाय, जिस की वापसी की अवधि 3 साल या 5 साल हो सकती है।

आप यह भी जानते ही होंगे कि इस साल बाढ़ के कारण ग्रांड टंक रोड, जो सेन्ट्रल पी० डब्ल्यू०डी० के अधीन है, बहुत सी जगहों पर टूटी पड़ी है। मुगलसराय जो इस देश का सब से बड़ा जंक्शन है, वहाँ से लेकर वाराणसी तक पूरी-की-पूरी सड़क टूट गई है तथा बरबाद हो गई है। पिछले साल की बाढ़ से वह सड़क अभी सम्भल भी नहीं पाई थी कि इस बाढ़ ने उस को बिलकुल ही बरबाद कर दिया। वैसे भी आप के पास जो रिपोर्ट आती है, उन में आप ने देखा होगा कि यह सड़क बनारस से लेकर बिहार की सरहद तक हमेशा खराब ही रहती है और इस का कारण यह है कि यह निचले इलाके से हो कर जाती है। . . .

श्री मुखर्जी प्रसाद वर्मा (चतरा) : बिहार में भी इस सड़क की यही हालत है।

श्री चन्द्रशेखर सिंह : मुझे मुखर्जी प्रसाद जी का संशोधन स्वीकार है—बिहार में भी इस सड़क की हालत बहुत खराब है। मेरा निवेदन है कि सड़क की अरम्भ की व्यवस्था तुरन्त की जाय। इस सड़क के

साथ कई स्थानों पर रेलवे लाइन चलती है, वहाँ रेलवे लाइन के लिये तो पानी की निकासी की व्यवस्था है, अनेक स्थानों पर पुल बने हुए हैं, लेकिन ग्राण्ड टंक रोड पर ऐसे पुल नहीं हैं, जिस के कारण पानी का निकास नहीं होता है और गांव पानी में डूब जाते हैं। इस से कृषि उत्पादन को बहुत नुकसान पहुँचता है।

इन सब समस्याओं के समाधान के लिये मेरा एक महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा यह है केन्द्रीय सरकार इस को अपना सर्वजैकट घोषित करे, तथा इस को केन्द्रीय विषय मान कर इस समस्या के निदान तथा समाधान का प्रबन्ध किया जाय। यदि इस को प्रान्तीय सरकारों पर छोड़ दिया गया तो इस से समस्या का समाधान नहीं होगा और वही हालत होगी कि बाढ़ आने पर कहीं बना भेजा जायगा, कहीं गेहूँ भेजा जायगा, कहीं मिट्टी का तेल भेजा जायगा और कहीं पर कुछ खाने-कमाने का माधन दिया जायगा। यह समस्या का कोई समाधान नहीं है, इस तरह की बातें हर साल होती रहेंगी।

अन में मैं आप से अनुरोध करूँगा कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जो बाढ़ आई है और बाढ़ की विभीषिका से जितने लोग ग्रस्त हुए हैं, जिनकी बर्बादी हुई है, उस के लिए एक केन्द्रीय दल भेजा जाए और वह केन्द्रीय दल देखे कि इस में कितना नुकसान हुआ है और इस से निपटने के लिए क्या क्या आवश्यक काम होने चाहिए।

एक बात और कहना चाहूँगा और वह यह है कि अब जाड़ा आ गया है और लोगों को घरों में रहने की सुविधा नहीं है। अगर आप कोई तुरन्त सहायता नहीं प्रदान कर सकते, तो कम से कम टन्ट वगैरह देने का काम होना चाहिए जब तक उन के लिए मकान न बन जाएं।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं समाप्त करता हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश को 2 हजार करोड़ रुपये बाढ़ से निपटने के लिए दिये जाएं।

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): Sir, we are giving our opinions about floods and famines in Parliament for the last 30 years. Government have also been appointing several expert committees which have been submitting their reports. For instance, in 1954 such a committee was appointed and it submitted its report. For the last 24 years Government failed completely in taking up flood control schemes, which have been recommended by their own Committee. It looks, in my opinion, there is lack of interest because the officials are not directly affected. If there is any problem in any urban area, since they are also affected, the officers take a lot of interest in implementing all the schemes. Since 90 per cent of the sufferers of the

(Shri K. Suryanarayana.)

flood-affected areas come from the rural areas, their problems are being ignored. They have no association to bombard with statements and complaints or stage dharna before the residences of Ministers. The result is that all the flood control schemes are not implemented on time.

In 1954 one such report was submitted. Again, in 1967 the Mitra Committee submitted their Report. In 1971 a Committee of Ministers submitted a Report. According to the Report of the Ministers' Committee the area affected (in lakhs of acres) is 125 in one year and the average is 67 and the percentage of maximum to average is 190. The total percentage of maximum to average for the last 20 years is 483.

I want to confine myself to my own State, particularly my district, and deal with the problem of drainage in Krishna and Godavari. The Mitra Committee was appointed by the Government in 1967, which submitted a report in the same year, estimating only Rs. 24 crores to save the five districts. Nearly 12 lakh acres of land are affected continuously every year in the Krishna-Godavari delta area of Andhra. For the last three years in the five coastal districts we have suffered to the extent of 22 lakh acres on account of cyclones, heavy rains and floods, vitally affecting the economy of the nation. In the coastal delta districts of Krishna, Guntur, West Godavari, East Godavari and Prakasam we are suffering every year because of flood and drainage problem.

Now whenever there are floods in any area, a fact-finding Committee is sent to the State by the Centre. It is just like a flying saucer. Sometimes some flying Ministers also come, go back and give reports. Recently also from the Centre one Committee come to my area, Kolleru area, which was submerged. Only fishermen, Harijans and other backward classes are living there. Every year they are suffering on account of floods. Kolleru area consists of 260 sq. miles out of

which the cultivable land is 16000 acres. If all the flood control schemes are executed in Andhra Pradesh, that area will give an extra Rs. 70 crores worth of rice to the people. They have to spend Rs. 100 crores within a period of three years. Originally it was planned in 1967 to spend Rs. 20 crores, but now they have to spend Rs. 100 crores for the schemes. The Government of India is not cooperating with the Andhra Government. The Andhra Government have collected only Rs. 26 crores as drainage cess for the last 6 years. They could not control floods every year with this amount. Actually they are spending on the flood control work Rs. 2 or 3 crores out of this drainage cess which is not adequate to implement drainage schemes in time. So, the Government of India should come to the rescue of the Andhra Government in the national interest. Flood control schemes should be treated as a national issue. Whether it is in West Bengal or Madhya Pradesh or Andhra Pradesh or anywhere, it should be treated as one. There is inefficiency and disinterestedness on the part of the Government for the last 20 years. So, I want to request this Government to treat this important issue on a national plane and implement the various flood control and drainage schemes throughout the country.

Prof. Samar Guha also suggested the appointment of a Fact Finding Committee or an Expert Committee. I do not believe in the mere appointment of these committees. The Government should implement the findings of these committees when they give their report. Then only the appointment of reports. Then only the appointment of the country. So, please appoint a committee immediately to implement all the schemes which were already submitted by the Expert Committee.

I want to give the figures of other things also regarding floods. I give below figures regarding the total damage in the country given in a Report

of the Ministers' Committee on Floods and Flood Relief in 1972:

Year	Total damage in crores of rupees
1968	204
1969	233
1970	287
1971	596

Last year it was Rs. 580 crores. This year we have not received any figures from various States. So far as our State is concerned, it is nearly Rs. 40 crores worth of loss in crops. Our State Government wants immediate financial assistance this year. They want additional loans to implement all the schemes recommended by the Expert Committee in 1967 and approved by the Government of India. They want at least Rs. 100 crores in a period of four years to modernise the delta system in the entire Godavari-Krishna delta area consisting of 5 coastal districts and also the upland areas. Whether it is loan or subsidy, the Government of India must give it to the State Governments if it is for the development of the rural areas in the States. That is the only demand.

I want to give figures of damages in respect of my district also, that is, West Godavari District.

Due to inundation, the paddy land to the extent of 1,28,825 acres has been submerged in the district. After detailed estimates, out of this, 69,924 acres have been found to be totally damaged and 19,509 acres have been found to be partially damaged. These are the figures that have been collected and given to me and also submitted to the Central Committee and also a note on flood

3051 LS-9.

damage in West Godavari District during August-September 1978 has been submitted by the Collector to the Fact Finding Committee of the Centre on 3-11-1978. I want to give one copy of this to the hon. Minister to go through at least one delta area in which the schemes should be implemented and where the backward communities are badly affected.

Lastly, I want to bring to the notice of the Minister particularly one area, i.e., Kolleru area, which is damaged every year on account of lack of proper drainage system. In this area, as I mentioned previously, the fishermen, the landless poor, the Harijans and other backward communities are living depending only on the agricultural income. So this area should be treated as a backward area and all the benefits given to the backward areas should be extended to this area also.

I want the Government of India immediately to treat the Kolleru area as a backward area, so that the poor people there may get the benefit. There are no landlords there. All the land, 60 to 70 thousand acres, is owned by Government. Every year they are giving only one year's lease or so. The people are borrowing and are also not able to pay interest on the loans. That is why Government of India should come to the rescue of the Andhra Government. The Andhra Government wanted Rs. 42 crores as under:

Upputeru improvements schemes
Rs. 27.13 crores

Construction of flood detention reservoir 5.00 crores.

Excavation of a diversion course etc. etc. 2.00 crores.

I want to remind the Government how the Godavari delta has been developed. In 1857 one Mr. Cotton, an engineer, was sent there. He constructed works at a cost of Rs. 1.5 crores, and it is due to him that after 130

[Shri K. Suryanarayana]

years we are now enjoying its benefits. But the Government is not prepared, and the previous Government also completely failed, to take up the development of irrigation and flood control schemes, particularly in the rural areas. Shri Barnala has concern for the agricultural community and their income. He must take interest and see that he implements all the schemes that have already been recommended by the various Governments. The State Governments do not have sufficient funds, and they cannot raise additional taxes. The people are prepared to pay, whether you give them a remunerative price or not. If it were an industry, they can close immediately. The merchants can close their shops, the workers can strike, but the agriculturist cannot do anything like that. You are taking advantage of the situation of the rural population. The agricultural labourers are also suffering. Where there is flood damage, there is no work for them. You want to give food for work. You are giving wheat when they are accustomed to rice. My Government also told me that they have agreed. What is the fun of it?

I hope the hon. Minister will at least try to help the Andhra Government to help the poor people and the small farmers.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Trivandrum): I had occasion to visit West Bengal during floods and also my State of Kerala when it was flooded. Hon. Shri Samar Guha need not have been apologetic when he concentrated on the floods in West Bengal. No State has suffered so much as West Bengal during these floods, and the eloquence of all the Members in this House put together will not be able to express adequately the suffering, the loss and the misery that the people in West Bengal had to undergo. We saw that lakhs and lakhs of people were taking shelter on the bunds for weeks together. Simply because of their tenacity for life, they survived.

So, what happened in Kerala I saw with my own eyes. The difference between Kerala and West Bengal was this. It was a hit-and-run flood in Kerala, just came and finished off a number of houses, devastated agricultural land and, after three days, it looked normal, and, in West Bengal, for weeks together certain areas were completely flooded and the people had to remain on the bunds for days together. The high tidal waves, the heavy rains and the rivers all combined to devastate West Bengal, not only once but repeatedly.

Exactly, at that time, here at the Centre, there was another crisis. The Minister of Agriculture who was expected to look after these affairs for some reason, for Akali-Nirankari quarrel, resigned. Fortunately since the Parliament session started, he came back. We are grateful to him for that.

Here, I want to emphasize one point. The natural calamity should be treated as a Central subject as you treat the defence of the country. There is no meaning in State Governments coming, begging for some relief and the Central team going there and condescending to give some relief. That kind of a thing will not do. When we are bombed from outside, when the enemy attacks us, it is the responsibility of the Centre. The floods are not the creation of the State Governments. Therefore, my first appeal to you is that you should treat natural calamity as a Central subject and find the necessary funds.

Much has been spoken about relief. That stage is over. It was very inadequate. I need not explain. Even during the last days, nearly 20 per cent of the population of West Bengal had no contact with the rest of India. How can you take food and medicines to them? How many people died of cholera? That is a closed chapter as far as the present is concerned.

Here is the question of reclamation. This is the month of November. This is the time for sowing. If you are not in a position to reclaim the land and

start cultivation, the calamity will be much more than what is your apprehension.

Then, there is the question of rehabilitation. It is not only for West Bengal but for all the regions where the floods have affected them. What is your plan for reclamation of land in West Bengal? When a senior technical expert, Mr. Swaminathan, was sent there, his advice was, "Don't try to remove the sand, don't try to reclaim the land, because the reclamation of land itself will cost very much more than what the land normally cost." So, he advised them to take to some other kind of cultivation. He advised them to have orchards. But what will the people do till then? How will they live?

15.45 hrs.

(Dr. Sushila Nayar in the Chair)

I am not questioning the advice of Dr. Swaminathan. He is perfectly and scientifically correct. But not only the Government of West Bengal but also the Central Government has certain responsibilities. How are these people to live on half an acre or one acre of land of their own? If their land is not useful for cultivation today, how will they live? It is a very serious problem.

Then, speaking about the death of cattle, where are cattle for them and bullocks for them to plough the land with? Where are the seeds? You should look into the enormity of the problem that is facing not only Bengal but Bihar, U.P., Kerala and other affected areas.

Then, let us come to the question of rehabilitation. All the mud houses meted away. Where will these people go? Where will they stand? And how much money is needed for this? We are not speaking about bungalows but just mud huts with a roof thatched with hay or straw. How much will it cost? But where are the materials—bamboo, straw etc? All these things are a problem.

Therefore, it is not enough that a Government of India official goes and makes a survey at the circuit house, discusses with the officers there, and comes back. This should be treated as a national disaster and the Centre should be made responsible for it.

Then comes the major question. Every year we have discussion on floods. But have you a long-term plan to prevent these floods? When science and technology has developed to such an extent, cannot we find ways and means by which these floods can be controlled? In my humble opinion, I feel it can be done, though I don't want to go into the details of how it can be done etc. I want to draw the attention of the Government of India to the fact, in regard to this question of flood control, that you have to find the money.

Well, a few years ago Dr. K. L. Rao brought in a proposal about Ganga-Cauvery. Why can't you think about it again? Earlier, as has been said here, as far as Bengal is concerned, some scientists and engineers had made certain suggestions. So, what I say is that there is enough information, if you want to act. How much money—crores of rupee—will you be able to save if you invest it properly but you are not doing it. I know what the answer will be, viz., that it was not done by the previous Government. You are all here because they had failed and if you repeat it, it means you will also go the same way. That is why I am appealing to the Minister, especially since he comes from Punjab and though his profession may be something else, he should be a good cultivator and should know something about agriculture and something about floods. Therefore, I appeal to him that, in regard to this question, money should not stand in the way you will have to find it. Steps should be taken to control floods so that every year we need not spend our time discussing about calamities and the cause of floods.

SHRI ASOKE KRISHNA DUTT (Dum Dum): Madam Chairman, this year we have had one of the worst floods in recorded history in our country. The floods started very early this year when the distant islands of Lakshadweep were affected. Then Andhra Pradesh had a very serious cyclone and floods. Ultimately, during August, September and October, the entire Gangetic Plains have had one of the worst floods that any of us have seen or that have been recorded in history. Many friends from different States will be talking on the subject. States like Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Assam have been affected, and friends from these areas will be attempting to focus the special problems of their own States. As I come from West Bengal, I will mainly try to deal with the situation there.

I had been to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and seen the devastation there. There, undoubtedly, have been tremendous devastations in those areas also. But so far as the eight or nine districts of West Bengal are concerned, the intensive manner in which the devastation has occurred there is possibly unparalleled.

Now, about the solution of these problems, the matter must be looked at from two different angles: one is the long-term programme for prevention of similar floods; and the other is the immediate relief measures that are to be undertaken. I will talk about the long-term programme first. Floods, of course, have been the result of natural calamities: there have been excessive rains, water-logging and tidal waves, in some cases. But we could do certain things which could prevent the tremendous amount of devastation that has occurred.

Talking of West Bengal, it could be divided into three geographical zones so far as floods are concerned. One is North Bengal where the perennial Himalayan rivers like Tista and others sometimes get very angry and devas-

tate the districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Cooch-Bihar and other places. Fortunately this year we have not had any devastation in those areas.

Then there is the Central Belt—mainly Malda, Murshidabad and Nadia districts where the Ganga river itself creates all the devastation and ravage. The problems of those areas are linked to Bihar and U.P. We saw that the floods started in U.P., then went to Bihar and ultimately the waters flowed on to those three districts of West Bengal. So, any major project about that should be done as a concerted action concerning all these States. I think, Government of India is the only machinery which can take a lead in this with representatives of different States as well.

West Bengal has another very peculiar problem, that is, the main belt of the southern and western area of West Bengal where the Ganga is not that significant. This is an area which has flat land in many places, rather saucer-like, with huge flat plains of catchment area. No perennial rivers are flowing through that area. Most of the rivers in these areas are rain-fed, monsoon-fed, rivers which have millions of cusecs of water flowing in gushes or torrents during the two or three monsoon months. In the rest of the year the rivers in these parts of West Bengal are barren and dry. The problem then is more of irrigation than of flood-control. In these areas, making high dams is also not possible. We do not have any high mountains there. The relatively low hills that we have are very soft. So, when the Damodar Valley project was first conceived, it was thought that, because we could not have many high dams, a large number of smaller dams had to be built in that area. Our experts had taken the Tennessee-Valley Authority scheme of the United States, as the model. Though the Tennessee Valley has a large number of dams, our plan originally was for twelve dams in the Damodar Valley area. Unfortunately, only four of these dams, namely, the Tiliya, the Konar,

Panchet and Maithon were completed and of the rest, in the Second Plan period another 3 were to come up and in the Third Plan period, five more were to come up but all these eight have been abandoned and as a result, these four shallow dams can hardly hold one-fourth of the water that flows here in the monsoon months. Then when the monsoon threatens and these dams are in danger of being over-flooded, the sluice are opened as a result of which there are devastating floods. Though the town of Burdwan has to some extent been saved by these dams, only these four dams have created a new problem for the districts of Hooghly, Howrah, Midnapore and Lower Burdwan. What happens is that when the heavy rains come and inundate these districts, at the same time the danger signal is given in these dams and to save these dams from being broken, the sluice gates are opened. Though this year we had the worst floods in these districts, almost every year certain portions of Howrah, certain portions of Hooghly, certain portions of Burdwan and certain portions of Midnapore are regularly flooded and water-logged every year because we do not have all these necessary dams in the Damodar Valley area. There is a barrage, the Durgapur Barrage. Now a barrage is not expected to store water. It merely diverts water. Unless we have a large number of dams in the upper reaches, this problem will never be solved.

Most of these rivers that flow into this Damodar Valley area, whether it

Damodar or any of the tributaries of Damodar or rivers in the Birbhum district like Mayurakshi and Ajay or the rivers in the Midnapore district like the Kangsabati and Subarnarekha, though they mainly ravage West Bengal, they also ravage portions of Bihar and Orissa and unless a concerted action is made about putting a number of dams on these rivers, mainly in the upper reaches of Bihar, these problems will continue. So, this is a problem which cannot be solved by one State alone. This is a problem

which should be solved by a concerted action of Orissa, Bihar and Bengal and the Central Government should take the initiative over here. The Damodar Valley scheme, particularly, the lower Damodar scheme which was never implemented, should be immediately taken in hand.

We have seen that many of these rivers at the lower reaches like the Damodar, the Rupnarain or the Subarnarekha or the Kangsabati are shallow tidal rivers and they bring in a lot of silt from the sea. A large amount of money is being spent for dredgers for dredging the Bhagirati-Ganga but hardly any dredging is done in the lower reaches of Rupnarain, Damodar, Kangsabati and Subarnarekha. As a result the lower reaches of these rivers are silted up and when the torrential flow suddenly comes from the upper reaches, the rivers cannot take the water and the banks are inundated and many of the adjacent districts flooded.

These problems are very serious problems and they are not new problems. These problems are being dealt with for year and even prior to Independence, the then government also had schemes about this, though very improper and unscientific schemes of making weirs and things like that. But the problems was envisaged. Sir, I extensively toured the flood-affected areas this time and I was surprised to find in Rupnarain and Subarnarekha the embankments had hardly been repaired in the last 10—12 years. I do not know whether the fault lies with the Central Government entirely or with the State Government or with both. But, a thorough investigation must be made as to why none of these embankments were repaired at all during the last ten or twelve years which had caused a very severe inundation and a number of breaches. Had the repairs in these embankments been done in proper time, then the districts of Midnapore, Hooghly and Howrah would not have been affected to this extent. These are some of the long-term problems which, I think, should be tackled immediately and Central

[Shri Ashoke Krishna Dutt]

Government should take immediate and concerted action.

16 hrs.

I have had reports that the Central Government is considering about the garland canal which will go from Kashmir to Assam garlanding the Himalayas. This is a Rs. 6,000 crore project. I do not know when it will be finalised; I do not also know whether scientifically it is at all feasible. Many Scientists have said that this will create a seismic problem earthquake and all that. I do not know whether this huge project is scientifically possible or not. If it is a feasible project, it should be done spending so much of money on such huge project. Only such projects which will cost a few hundred crores should be taken up in hand immediately. These are basically the longterm problems.

I now come to the relief problem. The question of relief is something which must be done in a scale which has not hitherto been done. The relief that is necessary is inconceivable. While going through many of the flood-affected areas—I have been in public and social life from my early childhood and I had seen lots of devastations—I found the manner in which the relief work had been done was not adequate—I found village after village, hundreds of villages, had been washed away which was something which I could never have conceived of had I not been there. The worst affected areas, the worst affected parts of the villages are those where the harijans and other backward communities live. They are economically the poorest. The houses of the weakest sections of the people were completely damaged when there was waterlogging. Millions of their cattle have died. The cattle purchase loan that is being given also is totally inadequate—it is only Rs. 200 to 300 or so. Madam, Chairman, surely, you know that to buy a pair of bullocks nowadays, the amount needed is many times more than that given as a loan. Suppose somebody has lost his entire cattle

wealth when will he get the rest of the money? Lakhs of cattle have been destroyed. But, if only a paltry sum of Rs. 200 to 300 is being given to him, it is only adding insult to the injury. This must be increased to a much greater and realistic extent.

More funds should be given for medical relief and for house-building and road repairs. A tremendous amount of waste has been caused to crops. I think the Reserve Bank should be taken into confidence; the crop loans that have been given should not be repaid. In the worst cases, that should be given remission altogether; in other cases, appropriate instalments and long extensions should be given for their realisations.

Madam, Chairman, in the end, I would like to bring to your notice one particular fact concerning West Bengal. This is a very peculiar feature of West Bengal. I do not find that in other State of U.P., Bihar which I had visited. The ruling party that is there in West Bengal is treating the problem in an extremely parochial manner. I do not know why they are doing that. (Interruptions). What we expected was that in the devastation of this magnitude, everybody should have worked shoulder to shoulder to ameliorate the ills that have befallen. The Chief Minister of West Bengal sometimes issues statements calling upon all the M.Ps. There he is not partisan. He calls upon the M.Ps of other parties to impress upon the Central Government to give more money. I am prepared to do that. But, at the same time the Chief Minister and more particularly the Chairman of the Leftist Front over there does not consider it worth while to call upon others to do that when the question of distribution comes. There they have the so called all-Party Committee at the State and District levels. But the real work in this type of devastation is done at the lower levels, at the panchayat and village levels where they have refused to from all party Committees. Now, an excuse is given that we are giving it to panchayats

what we could do if most of the panchayats have been captured by our party people. I admit they have captured majority of the panchayats over there but there are more than 15,000 panchayat seats where they have lost. There are numerous instances where in those panchayats the elected non-CPI(M) member was not given any charge of relief but the defeated CPI(M) member of that area was entrusted with the distribution work. (Interruptions).

Sir, although there are thousands of instances, I will point out here a glaring example. I have with me a certified copy of the First Information Report filed by the Digah Bloc Development Officer. The Bloc Development Officer of the Digah Ramnagar are filed a complaint with the police wherein he alleges clearly that a CPI(M) local leader of that area who is not an elected panchayat representative went to the bloc office and compelled the Government officer to part with all the relief material. He took it and distributed the same at his own sweet will. This case was filed with the police but the leaders of the ruling party over there pressurised the government and the Secretariat in the Writers Building and pressurised the BDO to withdraw this case. Had this case come to court a clear case of parochialism would have been proved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI ASOKE KRISHNA DUTT: Madam Chairman, I will conclude by saying that the devastation that has occurred is of a magnitude which we could not conceive of. It is a record in history and this is the time when the Central Government should give maximum aid and everybody should work shoulder to shoulder and try to re-build the shattered economy of West Bengal and other States. There is no place for parochialism. I will appeal to my friends that instead of quarrelling over this issue, they should immediately start all-party committees at the lowest level, namely, the village and the panchayat levels. Madam

Chairman, I find my friends are laughing here and they are joking about the floods there. They took the help of voluntary organisations like Ramakrishna Mission, Bharat Sevak Sangh, CARE and Marwari Relief Society but when they have got funds from the Centre they do not seem to need the help of these organisations...

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Who says?

SHRI ASOKE KRISHNA DUTT: Your Chairman, Mr. Pramod Dasgupta has said. He has categorically said. (Interruptions) This parochialism will ruin our State. I appeal to them to get rid of this parochialism and work shoulder to shoulder in re-building our State.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chitta Basu.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): You have not called me. I want to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your turn will come. Mr. Chitta Basu now.

(Interruptions).

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore): There is no order in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Shri Chitta Basu.

(Interruptions).

Will you please take your seat? There is a list left here by the Deputy Speaker. I am following that list.

AN HON. MEMBER: Please read it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not going to read it. The next turn is that of Shri Chitta Basu. Your turn will come soon. Don't worry. I will call you.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: List must be based on the number of members of each party. What is this? We are not being called.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: A system is followed. Why today it is completely given a go-by?

(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Everybody cannot speak at the same time. People have been selected by the parties.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Our party has not spoken on this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please speak in a more gentle manner?

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: What is this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not appreciate this method of talking.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: You are not giving us any chance. What is this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chitta Basu.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Deputy Speaker has not done it; somebody else has done it.

श्रीधर बलबीर सिंह (होशियारपुर) : यह नेशनल मसला है, किसी एक स्टेट का नहीं है। बंगाल के 6 मेम्बर बोल चुके हैं, पंजाब का मसला यहाँ कौन रखेगा ?

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Madam Chairman, I think, everybody would agree that the enormity of the problems arising out of the tremendous floods this year has been unprecedented. It had no parallel so far. I do not propose to really describe the immensity of the problem. I would only mention certain aspects of it. I think the real immensity of the problem has not been recognised by the Government. Various news items have appeared in the Foreign Press also about this. Even the London Times of August 25, mentioned about the floods in India. I quote. It said:

"Worst rains in 80 years underline the need for flood-protection measures".

This is the headline of London Times of August, 25. And then on September 18, it says:

"Terror of the monsoons. This year 900 killed, 3 million homeless".

The entire world knows about the immensity of the problem. So far as the Government of India is concerned, the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation made a statement in the other House of Parliament giving the total figures of the devastation caused in our country due to floods. According to the statement made in the other House, the number of human lives lost is 2400; cattle lost 2,16 lakhs; huts destroyed or damaged 38 lakhs; and crop area affected, 92,35 lakhs acres. These very figure already given in the other House by the hon. Minister underline the enormity of the problem. There should not be any difference of opinion regarding the magnitude of the problem. And in this devastation, in different parts of the country, West Bengal has been the worst affected State. I do not say it because I come of the State of West Bengal. This very single fact has been recognised by the hon. Minister in his Statement also and therefore, I quoted it in his own words.

Now, according to West Bengal Government, the devastation is more than what has been destroyed by the Government of India. I quote here a paragraph from the document of the West Bengal Government:

"The national calamity that has overtaken the State of West Bengal since last August has a few parallels in history. In the wake of the two previous floods during the August-September, which had severely affected at least five districts, a third phase—this one of terrible dimensions—ensued from September 27, 1978. The flood was unprecedented in both extent and intensity. It affected about 30,000 sq. km. in nine districts and more than one-and-a-half crore of people".

Madam Chairman, I do not like to go into the details of the damages caused. But I would certainly, at this

stage, to mention that the Government of West Bengal assessed the problem and the requirements and placed them before the Government of India in order to undertake relief and rehabilitation work. It is well-known to the House that the Government of West Bengal suggested to the Government of India that in order to meet the requirements of the relief and reconstruction programme, a sum of Rs. 349.75 crores would be required, to be followed by institutional finances of 130 crore rupees.

Madam Chairman, it is unfortunate that although the Government of India, agreed to offer massive assistance for the relief and rehabilitation programme for the flood victims of West Bengal, they have so far been pleased to sanction only an amount of Rs. 89 crores by way of advance plan assistance. Under this very concept of advance plan assistance, if you permit me Madam Chairman, to point out it is nearly the negation of plan itself. The very concept of the advance plan assistance, as I have mentioned earlier, is merely to negate the plan itself because this amount of Rs. 39 crores of advance plan assistance and the amount of Rs. 130 crores sanctioned for reconstruction and rehabilitation programme, would be adjusted against the total plan assistance allocated for the State. That means the plan will be distorted, that means the plan will be dwarfed, the plan will be pruned and pruned beyond recognition. That means West Bengal will never be able to rise on its own feet. I do not mean that this is the state of affairs with the West Bengal State alone. I know that this concept of advance plan assistance is applicable in relation to all the States and I have got figures with me to show that in case of Bihar, in the case of U.P. and in the case of all other flood affected areas and even in the case of Andhra Pradesh last year, this very concept of advance plan assistance was introduced. The Plan has been dwarfed and distorted and the result has been negative. I would, therefore, request

that even at this stage this very concept of advance Plan assistance should go and the natural calamities should be a Central subject and there should be budgetary support for the funds required for reconstruction and rehabilitation. I would appeal to the Government of India that only in the case of West Bengal alone—West Bengal Government has asked for 350 crores as budgetary support—this should be extended in the case of other States also. The Sixth Finance Commission had introduced this concept of advance Plan assistance. I have got no time to read their recommendation. They introduced this concept, I would say, unjustifiably. The Sixth Finance Commission is over and the Seventh Finance Commission has already submitted its report. I think, the hon. Minister should reconsider the whole issue and instead of insisting on following the recommendations of the Sixth Finance Commission, introduce a new principle of offering massive assistance so that the flood-affected States can re-build their economy and do not become victims of distributions of planned economy, because of the pruning of advance plan assistance and they really take to the path of economic advancement even after the flood damage. I am sure, the entire House will agree with me that the concept of advance plan assistance to meet the requirements of natural calamities should be done away with and the affected States should be given budgetary support to meet their requirements. As I said, in the case of West Bengal, their demand is Rs. 350 crores. I hope, the Government of India would offer that massive assistance so that the economy of West Bengal can be revived and the programmes for the flood-victims become really effective and fruitful.

श्रीमती कमला बहुगुणा (फूलपुर) : सभापति जी, अभी फ्लडज के सिलसिले में बहुत सी बातें आपके सामने आई हैं। इसमें तो कोई शक नहीं कि सारे देश में इतने बड़े पैमाने पर फ्लडज आये हैं, इतनी बड़ी ट्रेजडी यहाँ हुई है कि इन्सान की याददाश्त में पहले कभी नहीं हुई। खासतौर से जो उत्तर भारत में हुआ

[श्रीमती कमला बहुगुणा]

है, उसको तो हम प्रलय कह सकते हैं, बाढ़ नहीं कह सकते। बाढ़ तो बहुत छोटा शब्द है, उसके लिये प्रलय ही कहा जा सकता है।

इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है कि नेशनल लेवल पर ही यह प्राबलम सौल्व हो सकती है, किसी स्टेट की ताकत नहीं है कि जिन पैमाने पर नुकसान हुआ है, उसको वह संभाल सके और इसे राज्य के स्तर पर ही नहीं बल्कि पूरी नेशनल प्राबलम के तरीके से इसे देखना पड़ेगा। स्टेट्स जो थोड़ी बहुत इसमें मदद कर सकती हैं, वह बात दूसरी है मगर मेजर भाग सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को ही देखना पड़ेगा।

एक बात मैं जरूर कहूंगी कि जितनी भी हमारी फ्लड्स की पालिसी है, कोई सैपरेट हम उसको छील नहीं कर सकते हैं, उसको हमें फारेस्ट पालिसी से बांधना पड़ेगा। फारेस्ट हमारे हिमालय में ही आते हैं और फ्लड्स भी हिमालय की तरफ से ही आते हैं। फारेस्ट पालिसी जो चल रही है, ऐसा मालूम होता है कि जिन रफ्तार से पहाड़ों में पेड़ काटे जा रहे हैं, उसकी वजह से ही फ्लड्स और लैंड-स्लाइड होते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में खाम तौर से लैंड-स्लाइड्स से बहुत नुकसान हुआ है।

उत्तर प्रदेश के 56 जिले हैं और इसमें से 54 जिले डूब गये हैं। अभी एक छोटी सी टीम दिल्ली से इलाहाबाद की जानकारी के लिये भेजी गई थी, उसका अनुमान यह था कि अगर 40 करोड़ रुपया दिया जाये तो कुछ राहत इलाहाबाद को मिल सकती है। आप शुरू में अन्दाजा लगायें कि मारे उत्तर प्रदेश में कितना नुकसान हुआ है जहां कि 54 जिले पानी में डूबे हुए हैं। इसके बारे में जितना हम कहें, वह बहुत कम है और जितनी मदद दी जा रही है वह भी ना के बराबर है। इतनी बड़ी ट्रेजरी में जो मदद स्टेट और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट कर रही है, वह ड्रॉप इन ओशन है।

मेरा कहना है कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट हिमालय की गारी फारेस्ट पालिसी को रिवाइज करे और अगर 10 साल हिमालय के पेड़ कटवाने बन्द कर दे तो कुछ नुकसान होने वाला नहीं है।

गंगाघाटी में भी जहां में गंगा नदी निकलती है,— और यही गंगा और यमुना नदियां पानी ले कर बिहार और बंगाल तक पहुंचती हैं— उतनी दूरी तय करने में पेड़ काटे गये हैं कि अगर वहां पर अगले दस साल तक बराबर पेड़ लगाये जायें, तब जायद फ्लड्स थम सकेंगे। उत्तर काशी में भागीरथी से पांच दफा फ्लेश फ्लड्स हुए, और उनसे बहुत क्षति हुई।

इस लिए मेरा नम्र निवेदन है कि गवर्नमेंट मारे हिमालय की फारेस्ट पालिसी को फिर से रिवाइज करे। ऐसा लगता है कि पिछले तीन सालों में फ्लड प्राबलम पर सोचा ही नहीं गया है। डेवेलपमेंट वर्क्स बहुत एरैटिक ढंग से किये गये। सड़कें, ब्रिजज और डैम बनाये गये, लेकिन यह नहीं देखा गया कि फ्लड के पानी का बहाव किधर से होगा। इस का नतीजा यह हुआ कि उन की वजह से पानी बहुत जगह रुक

गया। इस लिए इस समस्या को हल करने के लिए सारी प्लानिंग को इनबाल्व करना होगा। फ्लड्स और फारेस्ट्स बर्ररह के बारे में प्लानिंग करने के लिए एक को-ऑर्डिनेटिड कमीशन बनाना चाहिए। अगर जरूरत हो, तो फोरिनकन्ट्रीज से एक्सपर्ट्स बुलाये जा सकते हैं, जिन्होंने अपने अपने कंट्रीज में फ्लड्स को कंट्रोल किया है। दस सालों का एक टाइम-बाउंड प्रोग्राम बनाया जाना चाहिए। तभी हम इस समस्या को हल कर सकेंगे।

सब स्टेट्स टेम्पोरेरी सहायता की मांग कर रही हैं। बंगाल में डिलूज आया था; उन्होंने सहायता की मांग की है। इसी तरह बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश ने भी सहायता मांगी है। सेंटर से मेरा निवेदन है कि जितनी मांग आई है, अगर वह किसी भी तरीके से उस को पूरा कर दे, तो जायद इन स्टेट्स की इकानोमी नम्भव सकेगी।

दो किस्म के डैम्ज बनते हैं: एक डैम तो इनर्जी जेनरेट करते हैं, और दूसरे फ्लड डैम्ज हैं। हाइड्रल डैम्ज से तो पानी नहीं निकल सकता है। लेकिन मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि जब बार-बार इतने जोर की बारिश हो रही थी, तो बारिश होने से पहले ही फ्लड डैम्ज से पानी क्यों नहीं निकाल दिया गया। अगर बारिश शुरू होने से पहले ही पानी को बंकेट कर दिया जाये, तो बारिश शुरू होने के बाद एकमुट्टा फ्लड करने की जरूरत न पड़े।

रेसपाइट डैम बनाने की भी स्कीम है, जैसे दामोदर वैली में, लेकिन वह काम भी नहीं हो पाया है। अगर उस को कार्यान्वित किया जाये, तो कुछ राहत मिले।

हिमालय से जो नदियां निकल रही हैं, उनका पानी कैसे वहां पर रोका जाये और रेगुलेट किया जाये, इसका उपाय करना बहुत जरूरी है। इसके लिए नेपाल आदि बाउंडिंग कन्ट्रीज से फोरिन बातचीत कर के गवर्नमेंट को यह काम जल्दी हाथ में लेना चाहिए। दिसम्बर का महीना शुरू होने जा रहा है। अभी हम राहत के लिए पैसा मांग रहे हैं। पांच महीने बाद जून में फिर बारिश शुरू होने वाली है। इसलिए इस काम को जल्दी करना चाहिए। सेंटर को रफ्तार सरकार की मदद ले कर एक पाजिटिव स्कीम बनानी चाहिए और इस समस्या को बार फुटिंग पर हल करने की कोशिश करी चाहिए।

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): Madam Chairman, I am obliged to you for giving me this opportunity. We have resumed this debate on a very important subject, after the most unprecedented natural calamity has caused unimaginable suffering to very large sections of people, and widespread damages in different parts of India.

Time being very short, and without minimizing the importance of proper consideration of the situation prevailing in the other States, may I, within the limited time available, draw the attention of this hon. House and of the hon. Minister to the situation prevailing in West Bengal? My colleagues from West Bengal have spoken about it, although some partisan consideration have been brought in, to malign the popular Government there.

But it has been accepted everywhere that West Bengal is now the biggest victim of this flood. More than one crore and 50 lakh people have been directly affected by this flood. The position has been accepted by the Central Government.

On behalf of the people of West Bengal generally, I plead for humane treatment from this Government and also justice. I do not want to accuse anybody nor do I want to say anything in a spirit of confrontation. The people of West Bengal cannot avoid the feeling about the magnitude of the devastation which has been caused in the State. It has not been properly appreciated by our friends in different States in the country; and the Government in the Central has approached the matter more from the point of view of dry accountancy and pounds, shillings and pence than with the objective of eliminating human misery and suffering and from the point of view of national integration and reconstruction. But probably in view of antipathy of a section of the Janata leadership in the State, it seems that some partisan approach is being taken. I would like to tell the hon. Minister here that he shall be the happiest person if this impression is removed. I stand here not to plead for mercy. We are the citizens of this country. We have our own contribution. We have our own rights and this country has her obligation towards the people of the State of West Bengal. I stand here to impress upon the Government and the people of the country for the proper appreciation of the problem and its mag-

nitude and not for mere compassion. I want that the authorities should discharge their duty and obligation towards what is happening in the State and will help us to revive our economy. We do not want mere ritualistic messages of sympathy and bureaucratic approach.

The position is this. Although the Prime Minister himself could not find time for one month to go and visit West Bengal, he has been good enough to admit that such a situation has not been faced by any part of the country for the last 500 years. The record of rain-fall that we have in this country for the last 100 years does not show such a heavy rain-fall as we experienced and witnessed in West Bengal. We had seen over 13 inches of rain-fall within 2-3 days inundating vast parts of the country resulting in water-logging. In the absence of a proper drainage system, it has been totally ignored for years and years in this country. Thousands and thousands of crores of rupees have been spent in the name of planning, but no proper integrated scheme of drainage has been developed in this country so far. In the absence of drainage, this water logging took place because of the unprecedented rain-fall. Then over and above that, there developed an inhuman position resulting in untold misery because of the discharge of water from DVC. I would like to know how long would the people of West Bengal be victims of DVC for its improper functioning, because every year, there is heavy rain fall. If there is heavy rain fall, the only way to save the dam is to release the water and save the people and the economy of the State. Hundreds and thousands of acres of paddy land is being wasted every year, but no step is being taken. If you have a scheme like the Damodar Valley Scheme, we do not understand how can you have it in a half hearted manner? How can you have incomplete scheme? The result is that there is bound to be sufferings by the people. Now there has been greater rain fall this year. You have to save the dam. But who should be the

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

victim? The people. To save the dam the people have to be killed. They have to suffer.

During those few days there had to be large scale efforts made for rescuing the people, for providing them relief, for providing them with shelter and we are very happy to say that during that time we had the greatest co-operation of people and various organisations and cartels of different political parties stood by the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is up. Please conclude.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Charges have been made against our Government. Kindly allow me a little time to meet that. I am being called....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chatterjee, you take two or three minutes and finish.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Two or three minutes! That is not the point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken seven minutes already which has been given. Take another two or three minutes more and wind up.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are thankful to all sections of the people who came forward at that time to help us and stood by the side of the Government. We are very happy to say, we are proud to say because of the left front Government in the State and because of the help and co-operation that we received from all sections of the people, we have been able to meet such an unprecedented and gigantic task which was foisted on us during that time and we are thankful to the Army people for the great role played by them. We are thankful to the police personnel who have always been treated as anti-people organisation—they came forward and helped the people. We are thankful to the Panchayats and the local bodies who came forward to help us.

The position is this. I need not go here to the details of this. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the steps to be taken to mitigate in future or to do away with such risks of ravages so far as the State of West Bengal and other States are concerned. I would like to know what are the concrete proposals of the Central Government to come to the aid and assistance of the State Government for rehabilitating these 2 crores of people who are to-day suffering, who have lost their hearths and home, whose houses have been destroyed, whose lands have been spoiled.

According to the Minister himself 20,000 acres in West Bengal have been covered by sand. What is the Central Government to do? It is very curious. Our loss is Rs. 2,000 crores. Our demand was Rs. 350 crores, not immediately. We said, spread it to two years. But please let us know what will be given when. Unless we know what you will give and how much you will give at what point of time, it is impossible to evolve a scheme of expenditure for reconstruction. Because if money is given suddenly 10 crores, 20 crores just before the end of March, then the Government cannot properly evolve a scheme. What is to be done? What is the attitude of the Central Government? They say, no no, we shall advance money to you out of plan allocation, whether your future plans go to dogs, does not matter; whether the State development is altered totally, does not matter. You have to manage with your resources. Who decides that? Central Study teams go from Delhi. They go and visit some places and have discussions with some of the officers and at Delhi in the Planning Commission, in which Department, we do not know. They say, well, this much we shall give. No more. Even then they do not give the final figure. What is the crime that we have committed? Our crime is that we are saying to the Central Government, let it share the burden of rehabilitating the people, of reconstructing the country. We are not to be blamed for this. Therefore, are

the people of West Bengal in different States to be treated merely at the mercy of some study teams which go from time to time. When the Plan allocation was finalised, was it taken into consideration that the State will suffer so much because of floods and other natural calamities that you are now slicing away large amounts out of the plan allocations for flood relief? I am glad that another study team is going to visit my State, I do not know whether my information is correct and I would like to know whether another study team is going to visit West Bengal and whether the Central Government will kindly announce what is the total amount they will give and how they wish to spread it out during the next one year or two years. Although our loss has been to the extent of about Rs. 2000 crores, our demand has been limited. There has been no irresponsible demand. Against that Rs. 89 or 90 crores have been allowed. More than 24 lakh houses have been washed away but out of the demand for house-building, hardly any amount has been given. The same is the case with regard to irrigation and road-building. Will the Central Government take part in the discharge of these obligations or not we want to know.

I do not want any confrontation. Our State has been ravaged by natural calamities for which I am not seriously blaming the Central Government, although it is the result of the accumulated sins of years which the present Government does not seem to be very alert to find out and decide how to rectify them. But why should we suffer and why should we be treated as somebody who has to be left at the mercy of nature for all times to come? A strange attitude is being taken that unless every week an account is submitted, no payment will be made. Are we serfs? Is this a feudal State that every week account has to be rendered? Is it required of any other State or organisation? Nobody is denying the obligation to render accounts.

Auditing is there. Accounting is there. But now it is said, unless you give accounts every week, no further consideration will be given. It seems a section of the Janata Party is having an openly inimical attitude. (*Interruptions*) If *Times of India* opens a relief fund, contributions to that fund are exempted under the Income-tax Act. But the contributions to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund are not given income-tax exemption.

If you help us, we shall thank you. If you do not come to our rescue, in spite of that, we have to build up our State. But I would request the Central Government to come to our rescue and help the West Bengal Government in a more massive way, in a more fruitful way and in a more planned manner. Allegations have been made by some friends here that upto the village level all-party committees have not been set up. The hon. Prime Minister requested or desired in a letter to the Chief Minister that State level and district level committees should be formed. (*Interruptions*). What is the point of my hon. friends here saying that village level committees are not being formed? If village level committees are not formed, will no money be given by the Central Government? (*Interruptions*).

The point is that the Janata Party in its election manifesto speaks of decentralisation of power. Now, the decentralisation of power, it seems, only starts from the States and goes to the panchayat. When we have carried out the decentralisation, the people have in a massive way expressed their verdict in our favour now, that is sought to be supplanted by a chosen selected body when in different areas even political parties have no representatives of their own.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA: At the district level, you have elected zila parishads. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The people in the last local elections, have rejected your party.

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

We want the cooperation of everybody. We shall be thankful to everybody for their cooperation. Relief is being given through official agencies, through panchayats. Was Andhra Pradesh Government asked: unless you formed the village level committees, no money would be given? Because there is a Left Front Government, this demand for a village level committee has been made.

The last meeting held at Midnapur addressed by us, was the biggest ever held there. That shows that the people are with us. My respect has increased for Mr. Samar Guha for what he has recently done. Therefore, I request my friends and the Janata Party leadership not to take any partisan attitude. It is our endeavour and we shall do our best to save the State of West Bengal. If you come with your help and if you do not, we shall try our best to save the people. (Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken 22 minutes. Please wind up.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are extending our hand of cooperation. I am sure, there will be cooperation from your side. Let the Central Government see that the people of West Bengal do not have the feeling that in their hour of crisis, the necessary help is not given to them.

We have openly expressed our thanks to the Central Government for whatever it has done. I am sure, in spite of these pin-pricks by the local Janata leaders, the Central Government will kindly do this minimum justice to the people of West Bengal; otherwise, we will have a feeling that we have been denied of our rights.

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण तायक (खजुराहो): महाभारत मध्येदेव, पाय बाढ़ से देश के विभिन्न भागों में जो क्षति हुई है, उस पर चर्चा चल रही है। यह सही है कि पश्चिम बंगाल में इस से सब से ज्यादा नरसंहार हुआ है लेकिन वह भी मानना पड़ेगा कि बिहार, उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश, पंजाब और राजस्थान में भी इस बाढ़ से बड़ा नुकसान हुआ है। यह जो नरसंहार हुआ,

पशुओं का विनाश हुआ और धन तथा फसलों का नुकसान हुआ है। उसकी भरपाई करना राज्य सरकार के बस की बात नहीं है, इस में केन्द्रीय सरकार को मदद करनी चाहिए। तभी प्रांतों में जो लोगों को तकलीफ हुई है, परेशानी हुई है, उसको दूर किया जा सकता है।

अभी कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कुछ सुझाव दिये। मैं भी कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। मैं चाहता हूँ कि शासन एक दीर्घकालीन योजना बनाये जिसमें कि हम इस बाढ़ को रोक सकें। केवल मामूली रकम देने से यह काम नहीं सुलझ सकता है। हम चाहते हैं कि जो बड़ी बड़ी नदियाँ हैं—चाहे वह ब्रह्मपुत्र हो, गंगा हो, यमुना हो—जिन में बाढ़ें आती हैं, उन नदियों में छोटी छोटी नदियों का पानी जाता है। अगर उन का पानी हम रोक सकें तो बड़ी बड़ी नदियाँ में कम पानी जाएगा। इसलिए मैं पहले तो यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जिन बांधों की स्वीकृति दी जा चुकी है उन पर जल्दी से जल्दी काम शुरू किया जाए, उस में ढिलाई न की जाए। बाण सागर योजना और राजघाट बांध की स्वीकृति दी जा चुकी है लेकिन इन कामों में ढिलाई की जा रही है। अगर ये बांध तत्काल बना दिये जाएं, इन के अलावा और भी बांध हो सकते हैं जिनकी स्वीकृति दी जा चुकी होगी, उन्हें भी बना दिया जाए तो इन छोटी छोटी नदियों के पानी को रोका जा सकता है।

इसी तरह में जिन बांधों की स्वीकृति प्रांतीय सरकारों ने मांगी है, अगर उनकी भी स्वीकृति दे दी जाए तो उन से भी बाढ़ों को रोकने में काफी मदद मिलेगी। हमारे यहां एक जामने औरंगा जल विद्युत बांध की स्वीकृति सरकार ने मांगी है। हम चाहते हैं कि उस की तत्काल स्वीकृति प्रांतीय सरकार को मिलनी चाहिए जिस से कि इस बांध पर जल्दी से जल्दी निर्माण कार्य शुरू किया जा सके। इन बांधों के बन जाने से इन बाढ़ों को रोका जा सकता है।

एक निवेदन में यह भी करना चाहता हूँ कि देश में बहुत से पुराने तालाब और नाले हैं जिन में काफी मिट्टी जम गयी है। जब बरमान होती है तो उन तालाबों और नालों में पानी नहीं ठहर पाता, ऊपर से निकल जाता है। इन तालाबों और नालों की मिट्टी को बुलडोजरों से निकाला जाए। इस में एक फायदा तो यह होगा कि ये तालाब और नाले गहरे हो जायेंगे जिस से उनमें पानी ठहर सकेगा, बाहर नहीं आयेगा। दूसरे उन से जो मिट्टी निकलेगी, उसका खेतों में दस्ते-माल हो सकता है। वह मिट्टी खाद का काम देगी। यह भी बाढ़ को रोकने में मददगार सिद्ध हो सकता है।

ये सब ऐसे सुझाव हैं जिन पर केन्द्रीय सरकार का ध्यान देना चाहिए। इन कारगर सुझावों को केन्द्रीय सरकार प्रांतीय सरकारों पर न छोड़े। जो पुराना तालाब बरखा मागर है वह जीर्ण-शीर्ण अवस्था में है, उस में पानी नहीं ठहरता है। इसी तरह से देखी बांध और घरजार बांध सिल्ट से भर चुका है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इनको जल्दी से जल्दी ठीक किया जाए जिस से कि इन में पानी ठहर सके।

जिन लोगों की जमीन इस बाढ़ में नष्ट हो गयी है, जिनकी जमीन में रेत प्रवेश गयी है और जमीन खेती के लायक नहीं रही है, उनकी जमीन से रेत को भलग किया जाए और खेती के लायक बनाया जाए ताकि किसान उस में खेती कर सकें और दूसरे काम कर सकें। इस के लिए थोड़ी थोड़ी रकम देने से काम नहीं चलेगा उनको पूरी तरह से इस के लिए नक़दी देनी चाहिए।

यह कभी कल्पना नहीं की गयी थी कि इस बार की बरसात में मकान भी गिर जायेंगे। इस बार पानी बरसने के साथ साथ हवा भी चली और मकान ढह गये। गरीबों के मकान ज्यादा से ज्यादा गिरे। हमारे यहां सरकार, मऊरानीपुर, टिरका, पलेरा, निवाड़ी में हरिजनों के मकान गिरे। वे लोग अपने मकान बना कर उनमें रह सकें, उन के लिए अभी तक उन्हें बांस, बल्ली नहीं दिये गये। जैसा मैंने पहले भी निवेदन किया था कि आखिर जो आप रकम देते हैं या जो योजना बना कर दी जाती है, उसको कोई देखने वाला नहीं है कि उस रकम का ठीक इस्तेमाल हो रहा है वा नहीं या उस योजना पर कार्य हो रहा है है वा नहीं। आप उन हरिजनों के पास मकान नहीं है। वे लोग अपने मकानों में नहीं रह रहे हैं, दूसरों के मकानों में रह रहे हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि उन के लिए जल्दी से जल्दी मदद दी जाए ताकि वे अपने मकान बना कर रह सकें। उन को बल्ली और बांस देने का कानूनी फर्ज है लेकिन इनको देने में ढिलाई में काम लिया जा रहा है।

उसी तरह से गीवा में बहुत नुकसान हुआ है। छतरपुर में जंगल सागर बांध को बड़ा नुकसान हुआ है। जबलपुर में भी नर्मदा से बहुत नुकसान हुआ है। कई दूसरी जगहें हैं जहां भयंकर बाढ़ आई है और उनको नुकसान हुआ है। पश्चिमी बंगाल की वान ठीक है। यह ठीक है वहां बहुत ज्यादा नुकसान हुआ है। लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश बिहार और मध्य प्रदेश में भी बड़ा नुकसान हुआ है गरीबों के जो मकान नष्ट हो गए हैं, उनकी खेती नष्ट हो गई है उनके वास्ते आपको कुछ व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये। उनके पास कोई दूसरा खाने का साधन नहीं रह गया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि हम मामले में जल्दी से जल्दी आपको कोई ठोस कदम उठाने चाहिये और उनकी मदद करनी चाहिये।

बहुत से लोग हताहत भी हुए हैं। उनके परिवारों का प्रांतीय और केन्द्रीय सरकार को, मदद पहुंचानी चाहिये। कई लोग अपनी जीवन लीला समाप्त कर चुके हैं। उनके घरों में कोई कमाने वाला नहीं रह गया है। जो परिवार के लोग बचे हैं वे किस तरह से अपनी जिन्दगी का निर्वाह कर सकते हैं यह भी आपको सोचना चाहिये। उनको मदद पहुंचाना भी बहुत जरूरी है। इस और भी आपका विशेष ध्यान जाना चाहिए।

आप तड़बन्ध बनाते हैं, दीवारें भी बनाते हैं, यह सब तो ठीक है। लेकिन एक मेरा आपसे विनम्र

निवेदन है। बड़े बड़े विशेषज्ञों की आप एक समिति बनाएं जो सोचे कि अगर इस तरह से प्रांगे बाढ़ें आती हैं तो उनका किस तरह से मुकाबला किया जा सकता है और इन बाढ़ों को कैसे बचा सजा सकता है। हर साल बांध टूट जाते हैं। ऐसा न हो इसकी तरफ भी आपको ध्यान देना होगा। कई बांध हैं जो जीर्ण शीर्ण अवस्था में हैं। पुराने बांध और तालाब हैं जहां पर अगर पानी कुछ ज्यादा बरसता है तो वे पानी में भर जाते हैं और उनके ऊपर से पानी बहने लग जाता है। हमारे यहां बरभ्रामागर के बांध को मिचार्ड मंत्री श्री भानुप्रताप मिश्र जी ने जा कर देखा था। वह भर गया था और उसके ऊपर से पानी बहने लग गया था। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा था कि हम विशेषज्ञ भेज कर इस बांध को उन से दिखावायेंगे। उससे बहुत खतरा पैदा हो गया था। उनके नीचे जिनने गांव बसे थे सब के तहस नहस हो जाने का खतरा पैदा हो गया था। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि बरभ्रामागर बांध ही नहीं बल्कि और भी ऐसे जितने भी पुराने बांध हैं जो पुराने पड़ चुके हैं, जो जीर्ण शीर्ण अवस्था में हैं, उनकी आपको दुरुस्ती करनी चाहिये, उनका पुनर्निर्माण आपको करना चाहिये। मशीनों के द्वारा उनको आपको मजबूत बनाना चाहिये। उन में आपको मिमेंट भरना चाहिये।

टीकमगढ़ जिले में कुणार तालाब की वजह से भी प्रलयकारी बाढ़ आई थी जिस की वजह से दोषर-पुरा गांव डूब गया था। यह तालाब पूरी तरह से भर गया था। यह गांव कई दिनों तक पानी से घिरा रहा। उस तक कोई पहुंच नहीं सका। वहां कोई आ जा नहीं सका। दूसरी जगह तो हवाई जहाज से आपने खाना आदि सामग्री फेंकवा दी थी। लेकिन इस गांव में लोग कई दिन तक भूखे पड़े रहे, परेशान रहे और मकट में फंसे रहे। यह ऐसा स्थान है जहां कल्पना नदी की जल मक्ती थी कि उनका भी जीवन संकट में फंस जाएगा। इसी तरह से और भी गांव हैं। मेरा आप से निवेदन है कि हम मामले की छानबीन करने के लिए आप एक कमेटी बनाएं और जितने पुराने बांध और तालाब हैं और जिन के टूटने की आशंका है, उनकी दुरुस्ती का प्रबंध करें। जिन बांधों का नव निर्माण होना है या जो नए बने हैं, या जिन का आपने स्वीकृति नहीं दी है और जिन की आपने स्वीकृति प्रदान भी कर दी है उन सब की तरफ आपका ध्यान देना चाहिये और तुरन्त उनके निर्माण का काम आपको हाथ में लेना चाहिये। जिन तालाबों में सिल्ट जम चुकी है, जो भर चुके हैं उनकी काली मिट्टी को आप बुलडोजरों की सहायता से बाहर निकलवाएं। अगर इस तरह से काम किया जाएगा तो मेरा विश्वास है कि भविष्य में हम बाढ़ों का मुकाबला ज्यादा अच्छी तरह से कर सकेंगे।

*SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM (Tiruchendur): Mr. Chairman, my hon. friends, Shri Samar Guha and Shri Somnath Chatterji spoke about the rigours and ravages of floods this year in West Bengal and the entire

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri K. T. Kosalram]

country is in sympathy with the lot of the people the West Bengal. The floods in West this year are much more serious than the floods last year in Andhra Pradesh. Besides West Bengal, the floods have played havoc in Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and other neighbouring States in South.

At the very outset, I would like to refer to the very regrettable pattern of Central Assistance for flood relief. Flood relief assistance is given to the States as advance plan assistance. It is a natural calamity and nature is not subservient to our planning processes. After all, the Planning Commission has been created by this House and the decision of the Planning Commission can never be a directive to the Central Government. If the Central Government is going to persist in preaching that the Planning Commission's decision in this regard is final and unalterable, then I am afraid that this is going to lead to the disintegration of the country.

The West Bengal Government sought Rs. 400 crores for flood relief and the Central has given only Rs. 80 crores. You can imagine the frustration and the dismay of 1.5 crores of people afflicted by flood. Today the C.P.I.(M) Government may be there and tomorrow another party may come to power, as it happened in Kerala, some years ago. The Central Government cannot afford to be partial in its financial assistance because an Opposition Party or some other party is in power in the State. The party in power, whether it is C.P.I.(M) or any other party in power, may take advantage to some extent. But it must be borne in mind that all the people of that State do not belong to the party in power. The Central Government is not extending its assistance to the party in power; it is helping the people in distress. The Central Government must not adopt any partisan approach in the matter of flood relief assistance.

In my constituency in Kanyakumari

there was unprecedented rain. All the tanks have burst and they cannot take any more water. The agriculturists of Kanyakumari district must be given immediate assistance on war footing. Whatever assistance the Tamil Nadu Government has asked for, the Centre must unreservedly give it to the State. In Nilgiris there was landside, killing 150 people on the spot. This occurred on 5th and 6th November. The Central team from here is leaving only tomorrow to assess the loss there. It is inexplicable to me why there should be this inordinate delay in sending the technical team. The Ministers may not be able to go there. But the technical official should have gone there immediately. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the reasons for such a callous attitude on the part of the Central Government. The Federation of the Tea Plantation Owners in the Nilgiris have stated both to the Central and State Governments that their loss is of the order of Rs. 80 crores; tea estates have been destroyed to this extent. I know that there is legislation to prevent such landslides. Unless the Centre gives crores of rupees for preventing such landslides, I am afraid that this may recur. Sir, 40 lakh acres of forest area have been destroyed during the past three decades.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: My party has been allotted 20 minutes. Mr. Stephen has written to you that time must be given to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No body else will speak?

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Mr. Stephen and myself will be speaking.

If deforestation is to take place to this extent, naturally floods of such dimension will take place year after year. Shri Barnala is Minister of Forest also and he must take suitable measures for afforestation. We have Forest Act under which private people can also maintain forest areas. I was a member of the Assembly when this law was passed. The private people can cut trees in

their forests with the permission of the local Collector. On account of this lacunae, large tracts of forest area have been destroyed. This Act must be amended so that cutting of trees in private forests also is prohibited.

During the period 1947 to 1977 20,000 crores of rupees have been lost on account of floods and Rs. 18,000 crores on account of drought. Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer long ago prepared a scheme for connecting Ganga with Cauvery. Shri K. L. Rao, former Minister of Irrigation at the Centre approached the Planning Commission for funds for conducting a preliminary survey. But the Planning Commission did not give its approval. There is also the Dastur Committee Report envisaging investment of Rs. 14,000 crores for permanent flood relief measures. The World Bank must be approached for sanctioning a loan so that this scheme can be implemented.

I have spent many years in prison during Independence struggle. I want India to remain as one nation. I am not speaking from any Party consideration. Forget politics. The Janata Government should not be an instrument in splitting the country. Forget what the former Government has done or has not done anything. Let the Janata Government initiate the process for implementing this scheme which would not only generate employment opportunities for lakhs of young people but also avert the recurring losses in floods and drought. For sustaining the unity of the country, Ganga must be linked with Cauvery.

In Kanyakumari, many tanks have got silted. Even the agricultural land is covered with mounds of sand. Desilting of tanks must be taken on war-footing. Even if some technical objections are bandied about, the Central Government must arrange for the desilting of tanks and also for the removal of mounds of sand from agricul-

tural land. A democratic Government is run for the welfare of the people. It is not the business of the Government to calculate the profit and loss of a particular scheme of activity. Relief measures must be undertaken forthwith. In Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tanjore and Tiruchirappalli districts roads have been washed away and the respective Collectors say that they would each require Rs. 4 crores for repairing the roads. Many thousands of huts have been destroyed. The Central Government must give on priority basis zinc sheets and ACC sheets for rehabilitating the flood victims. I understand that the Tamil Nadu has demanded Rs. 40 crores or so.—a very conservative demand—and the Central Government should sanction this sum without murmur and without taking recourse to the argument that this is advance plan assistance. The State cannot be made to suffer twice—one through floods and again through paucity of funds for implementation of plan schemes. In the matter of natural calamity there cannot be party considerations. The Centre cannot say that it is the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Government must take the full responsibility for flood relief and drought relief. Having suffered heavily, heavily in floods, the West Bengal Government should not be made to suffer from non-implementation of plan schemes.

In conclusion, I would appeal to the hon. Minister that adequate financial assistance must be given to the flood-affected people in Kanyakumari, Tiruchirappalli, Tanjavur and the Nilgiris districts in Tamil Nadu.

श्रीधर बलबोर सिंह (होशियारपुर) : सभापति महोदय, यह नेशनल सवाल है, यह कोई पार्टियों का सवाल तो नहीं है। बंगाल के 6-7 सदस्य बोल चके हैं। हर स्टेट का अपना-अपना मसला है और वह अपनी बात कहना चाहते हैं। अगर हमारे चीफ क्लिप को समझ नहीं है तो आप जो बेयर पर बैठे हैं, आप तो देखें कि हर स्टेट के लोगों को बोलने का मौका मिले। यह तो मजाक की बात है कि सात आदमी बोल चके हैं, बंगाल के और दूसरे किसी को मौका नहीं मिल रहा है।

सभापति महोदय : बलबीर सिंह जी, पंजाब के मंत्री भी हैं, वह पंजाब की सब चीज अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं।

श्री पब्लिक मोहन प्रधान (देवगढ़) : उड़ीसा से भी कोई प्रादमी अब तक नहीं बोला है।

श्री आर० एम० राकेश (चायल) : सभापति महोदय, हिमालय से लेकर बंगाल तक समूचा उत्तर भारत बाढ़ की जिस चपेट में था, उसे बाढ़ शब्द देने के बजाय प्रलय शब्द दिया जाय तो ज्यादा उपयुक्त होगा। जैसा कि घोर साधियों ने कहा बंगाल के बारे में आप ने सुना वहां तीन जिले पूरी तरह से प्रभावित हुए हैं। साथी सैन जी ने इसकी पुष्टि की है। बिहार काफी प्रभावित हुआ। मैं इसको भी स्वीकार करना हूँ परन्तु मैं आप का ध्यान उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश में कुल 56 जिले हैं। उन 56 जिलों में 54 जिले बाढ़ से पीड़ित थे और वह बाढ़ से बुरी तरह तबाह हो गए हैं, पूरे उत्तर प्रदेश में कितना नुकसान हुआ इसका अन्दाजा तो इसी से लगाया जा सकता है कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने बड़ी कोशिश की कि कम से कम मांग केन्द्रीय सरकार से करे, इसके बाद भी उसे 300 करोड़ रुपये की सहायता की मांग करनी पड़ी। उसकी मांग कितनी न्यायोचित और जायज है वह मात्र इलाहाबाद की बाढ़ से हुई बरबादियों से अन्दाजा लगाया जा सकता है। अकेले इलाहाबाद में जो सेंट्रल स्टडी टीम गई थी उसने इलाहाबाद में जो बाढ़ से नुकसान हुआ है, उसके पुनरुद्धार के लिए जो खर्च पड़ेगा उसका अन्दाजा 40 करोड़ रुपया लगाया है। इलाहाबाद के बारे में जैसा कि आप जानते हैं वहां प्रयाग एक छोटा सा गांव था, लेकिन सम्राट अकबर ने वहां किला बनवाया फिर इलाहाबाद नगर बसाया और उसी नगर के जन्म के साथ-साथ एक बांध वहां भी बनवाया था जिससे इलाहाबाद नगर सुरक्षित है। अगर उम बांध की रक्षा के लिए जिलाधीश सक्षम न होता सचेत पुलिस न गई होती, मिलिट्री न गई होती, यदि डिफेंस मिनिस्टर ने वहां पर अपनी पूरी शक्ति न लगा दी होती तो इलाहाबाद हिन्दुस्तान के नक्शे में मिट गया होता। बाढ़ के दिनों में जो तकनीकी लोग वहां पर गए थे उन्होंने अन्दाजा लगा कर अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है कि इस बांध को दो मीटर ऊंचा करने की जरूरत है अन्यथा किसी भी समय इलाहाबाद बरबाद हो जायेगा। बांध को दो मीटर ऊंचा उठाने के लिए 12 करोड़ रुपए का एस्टीमेट लगाया गया है। उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने बाढ़ के दिनों में वायदा किया था कि इसके लिए 12 करोड़ रुपए दिये जा रहे हैं लेकिन जैसे बाढ़ निकल गई, उनका वायदा भी निकल गया। उन्होंने पैसा नहीं दिया। लगता है इलाहाबाद के इस बांध की मरम्मत नहीं हो पायेगी। इस कार्य के लिए सेंटर से विशेष सहायता की जरूरत है। मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि सेंट्रल टीम वे जो 40 करोड़ का एस्टीमेट लगाया है उसके अलावा इस बांध

की मरम्मत के लिए अलग से 12 करोड़ रुपए दिये जायें ताकि उस बांध को दो मीटर ऊंचा किया जा सके।

वैसे तो इस वर्ष की बाढ़ से समूचा उत्तर भारत बुरी तरह से पीड़ित रहा है। असंख्य लोगों के घर और खेत बह गए और फसलें बरबाद हो गईं। लेकिन कुछ ऐसे लोग भी हैं जिनके पास बैंकों तथा पोस्ट ऑफिस में पैसा जमा है तथा अन्य साधन भी उनके पास हैं जिसके कारण वे उतने पीड़ित नहीं हुए परन्तु समूचे उत्तर भारत के हरिजनों की हालत बहुत खराब है। मैं विशेषतौर पर इलाहाबाद के सम्बन्ध में बताना चाहता हूँ कि वहां पर 60 हजार से अधिक लोग बेघरबार हो गए हैं। वे गंगा यमुना की चपेट में घाये और गंगा यमुना का जहां पर संगम है वहां पर बाढ़ की प्रलय हुई तथा यह प्रलय बंगाल तक चली गई। इस तरह से इलाहाबाद बहुत बुरी तरह से प्रभावित हुआ है। 60 हजार से अधिक लोग वहां पर बेघर-बार हो गए हैं और उनमें 90 प्रतिशत हरिजन हैं। उनके सारे घर-द्वार बह गए हैं। वे बेकारी की हालत में पेड़ों के नीचे गुजर कर रहे हैं। उनके पास न तो कोई घर-द्वार है और न जीवन्-यापन का सहारा है। सामाजिक संस्थाओं एवं सरकार ने किसी प्रकार से उन्हें बाढ़ में मरने से बचा लिया है जिसके लिए मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देता हूँ। लेकिन अब जो ठंडक पड़ने लगी है उससे उन्हें, बचाने की आवश्यकता है नहीं तो मौत से उन्हें कोई भी नहीं बचा सकेगा। यदि उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए विशेष उपाय नहीं किए गए तो इलाहाबाद में लाखों हरिजन इस जाड़े के मौसम में मर जायेंगे। इसी प्रकार से पूरे प्रदेश में करोड़ों हरिजन पीड़ित हुए हैं। यदि उनकी सुरक्षा का प्रबन्ध नहीं किया गया तो वे बरबाद हो जायेंगे। मेरी आपसे मांग है कि सेंट्रल स्टडी टीम ने जो रिपोर्ट दी है उसके मुताबिक तथा संसदसदस्यों ने जो यहां पर अपने विचार प्रकट किए हैं उसको देखते हुए वहां पर विशेष सहायता प्रदान करने की व्यवस्था की जाये।

इसके साथ ही साथ मेरी यह भी मांग है कि जिस प्रकार से बहुपुत्र के लिए पलड कन्ट्रोल बोर्ड बनाया गया है उसी प्रकार से गंगा तथा यमुना के लिए भी पलड कन्ट्रोल बोर्ड की स्थापना की जाये ताकि पलड को रोकने का प्रबन्ध किया जा सके।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे यहां पर बाढ़ पीड़ितों की आवाज की उठाने का मौका दिया।

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore): Mr. Chairman before I rise to speak I seek one clarification. My

party has got 13 minutes time and if I speak for eight minutes, can my friend speak for five minutes after me?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will speak. According to the time prescribed by the party it seems that could not be maintained. You start and go ahead without wasting your time.

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा (चतरा) : सभापति महोदय, इस डिबेट का टाइम बढ़ाया जाय ।

श्री महीलाल (बिजनौर) : मैं समझता हूँ—माननीय मंत्री जी भी हमारी राय से सहमत होंगे ।

सभापति महोदय : सभी बोलने वाले हैं, लेकिन थोड़ा समय का ख्याल रखिये ।

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: As has already been mentioned since a large number of members from West Bengal have already painted a picture of the grim devastation created by the unprecedented floods, I need not emphasise or go into details of this very horrific state of affairs that had been brought about by the natural calamity.

It is true that this year India has been particularly unfortunate that a large part of North India including U.P., Bihar, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan have been affected by floods.

But, Sir, in living memory, the flood in West Bengal has no comparison. If you were to put down the figures—I suppose figures have also been given—the flood in West Bengal has affected twelve out of sixteen district. The flood in West Bengal has caused a loss of two million tonnes of kharif foodgrains and a loss of Rs. 20 crores in the industrial sector. It has destroyed over eighteen lakhs houses and nearly two crores of people have been affected by the flood.

But, Sir, after the floods go the human problems stay there. To-day the problem of West Bengal is of rebuilding it and of rehabilitating the people who have been affected by the floods. For this, I had demanded at the beginning of the debate—the Minister of Planning and Fin-

ance should have been here—that what West Bengal needs is an adequate assistance in an forms. The Central Government has given as advance plan assistance only a sum of Rs. 88.93 crores whereas the West Wengal Government has asked for Rs. 349 crores. Even this amount is not sufficient to rebuild the economy of West Bengal. But, still, it would be a beginning. To my mind, the damage that has been done to West Bengal has been to the tune of a thousand crore of rupees and it will take ten years to recover from the backlog that has been already created.

At this time, I would urge upon the Union Agriculture Minister to convey the feelings of all people and all parties in West Bengal that the Central assistance that has been given so far has not been adequate. Adequate central assistance by way of an outright grant and not as advance plan assistance is required to rehabilitate the people. Winter is approaching. As I told you 2 million houses had been destroyed. These people are living homeless. If you go along the highways you will find such people living under the trees under the open sky. They have been affected in a large-scale by the floods. At this stage, a few things need to be mentioned. One of them that comes to my mind is that this time in West Bengal, the areas which had not been affected earlier are also affected by floods.

I hope you would agree with me if I show to you that this time the floods have been largely man-made—I do not know the reason for this man-made flood—this needs to be thoroughly probed. This time the D.V.C. discharged an unprecedented quantity of water. On the 11th day of floods in October, 1978 the D.V.C. authorities discharged 1,20,000 cusecs of water; from Mayurakshi over 20,000 cusecs of water and from Kansabati 10,000 cusecs of water had been discharged. And then, at a later stage, they together discharged over 3,00,000 cusecs of water. In West Bengal, the areas had never been

[Shri Saugata Roy]

flooded before as it is now. The command areas of different irrigation projects have been flooded on a large scale. We can understand the natural calamity; but we cannot understand the man-made calamity. So, the need of the hour is to complete the D.V.C. project. The D.V.C. project originally envisaged building of eight dams on Damodar river. But now, only four dams are there. I would like the hon. Minister to assure this House that the work of the remaining four dams will be started by talking to the Governments of West Bengal and Bihar as soon as possible. I would also point out one thing. I do not want to go into partisan politics. But the distribution of relief has been far from satisfactory. As the Prime Minister himself remarked at the all-Party Relief Committee in Calcutta, if you desire an all-party Committee to be set up, it should be at the village level. There are large numbers of complaints that relief was partisan; voluntary organisations were not allowed to work. This is unfortunate. Floods are not such things in which one can play politics.

I would appeal to the West Bengal Government, through this House, that they should shed their parochial attitude, partisan attitude and involve all the people of West Bengal and all the Parties of West Bengal in this natural calamity which they have not been able to do so far (Interruptions)

People of West Bengal have been affected by floods. If you think West Bengal people are your monopoly, then you are very sadly mistaken. Even now there is scope for a new vision in West Bengal. I appeal to the Central Government to see to it that adequate amount of money reaches West Bengal and also to see that all sections of people are involved in this task of building. I would

also like the hon'ble Irrigation Minister to take note of this calamity created by man-made floods and probe into the fact whether it could have been stopped.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman, this year's floods have pointed out one new thing. Normally all the rivers fall in Ganges. This time there was flood in the Ganges itself. Garland canal scheme has been mooted by several scientists and there is also the Ganga-Cauveri scheme. It is necessary for the Centre to have a vision for the future so that Ganga can be harnessed and Ganga is not a cause of sorrow for the people of North India. I again say that the Central Government must take immediate note of the demand made by the Government of West Bengal for adequate finance, and finance should not stand in the way of rehabilitating people who have been badly affected.

SOME HON'BLE MEMBERS: Mr. Chairman, many members want to participate in the debate. So, let the debate be extended to tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

श्री महोदय : आप बैठा ही रहे हैं। हम जो प्रार्थना कर रहे हैं, उसके बारे में भी बता दीजिए।

सभापति महोदय : आप तशरीफ रखिये, उन को बोलने दीजिए।

*SHRI A. V. P. ASAITHAMBI (Madras North): Mr. Chairman, year after year this House has been discussing the flood havoc and the flood relief measures undertaken in the country. On one side there is flood and on the other there is drought. It is stated by the Central Government that during the past three decades the loss on account of floods has been of the order of Rs. 7000 crores and about Rs. 3000 crores have been spent in flood relief measures.

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

In West Bengal, in Tamil Nadu and in other States, unprecedented floods have ravaged and the rigours of people cannot be said in a few words here. What has the Janata Government done in its 20 months of rule? Has it done anything better than the performance of the former Government at the Centre? The Janata Government can brag about that democracy has restored and the freedom of the press has been revived, as if an autocratic dictatorship had been established in the country for centuries to come. The signs of autocracy were an interim phenomenon. Really speaking, the Janata Government has not done anything constructive during the past 20 months. My desire was that the Janata Government should function much more efficiently and effectively than then the Congress rule of three decades. But my expectations have been belied.

Have the Janata Government thought of any permanent solution to the pernicious problem of recurring floods? The Janata Government is following in the same footsteps of the former Government at the Centre. The flood relief assistance is treated as advance plan assistance. Who is the Government at the Centre to deny our due? The Central Government collects excise, income-tax postal and telegraph tariff, customs and such other revenues from the State and the legitimate share of the State is given later for plan schemes. How can this be treated as advance plan assistance? It is a natural calamity. Nature is not subservient to the Planning Commission, as the Central Government seems to be. The Central Government should give flood relief assistance as *ad hoc* grant to the States and not as advance plan assistance. In fact, I would suggest that the Centre and the States must constitute a public Flood Relief Fund like the Consolidated Fund or Contingency Fund, from which grants should be given to the flood-afflicted States. I suggest that the Central Government should initiate steps in this direction.

In the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu there was landslide and 150 people lost their lives. The Collector says that Rs. 200 has been given to each family of the deceased. Is that enough? The Central Government must assist the State Government to ensure that each family gets Rs. 10,000 for their survival.

My hon. colleague, Shri K. T. Kosalram, referred to the necessity for implementing the mighty scheme of linking Ganga with Cauvery for averting the recurring flood and draught in the country. For 30 long years we have been merely talking about this scheme. Nothing has been done so far in this direction. India is a sub-continent of nations which we call as States. The Britishers for administrative convenience brought the States together. If you want that the nation should remain as one nation, if you want that national unity and integrity must be fostered and not festered by imposing any one language throughout the country, then this scheme of linking Ganga with Cauvery must be taken up for implementation. Year after year crores of rupees are spent on the development of Hindi which expected to keep India as one nation. I am afraid that this is not going to be shape of things. The former Government has shelved the Dastur Committee scheme envisaging an investment of Rs. 14000 crores for permanent flood relief measures. The Central Government must take up the Dastur Committee scheme along with the scheme for linking Ganga with Cauvery if India is to remain as one nation and if Indian unity is not to be as elusive as aneel. I am sorry to say that the Planning Commission brushed aside the suggestions of the former Irrigation Minister, Shri K. L. Rao, who wanted to initiate preliminary studies in this regard. The Janata Government, which swears by the welfare of the people of the country, must take up this scheme of linking Ganga with Cauvery, which will not only avert recurring flood and drought but also generate more employment opportunities in the country.

With these words I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Pabitra Mohan Pradhan.

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, whether we like it or not. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJ KRISHAN DAWN (Burdwan): We have also got something to say.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not possible to accommodate everybody.

SHRI S. K. SARKAR (Joynagar): Why discrimination is there? Extend the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No discrimination is there.

SHRI S. K. SARKAR: We are ready to sit down. You should consider our demands. Otherwise it is not fair or justice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pradhan, only 5 minutes.

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN: Sir, whether we like it or not, natural calamities are bound to come and we have got to face them. And this year, as has already been expressed by many others, there has been too much of rain. And this sort of flood has not occurred during the last one hundred years. The people affected approached the State Government. The State Government approached the Central Government.

As Members of Parliament, representatives of the people in this Parliament, we are bound to say what we ought to say and we are bound to put our demands what we ought to put. The Central Government should not be afraid of the demands made by the hon. Members of this House. Whatever the demands have been made, I hope, the hon. Minister will very kindly consider and immediately concede to the demands without which the economy of the various States will be ruined and it cannot be revived.

In my opinion, the people have committed so many since and wrongs on this earth and God is very much annoyed with the people. Natural calamities will, therefore, come in the form of earthquakes, floods, fire diseases, too much rains, too much heat etc., I foretell that in the near future, the entire world may come under deluge. Whether God or nature inflicts any punishment on the people or not, we have to protect ourselves. In my opinion, the best way to save ourselves from the fury of floods is to reserve the rain water by constructing dams not only in the bigger rivers, but in each and every place, small *nalas*, medium *nalas*, bigger *nalas* and the branches of the bigger rivers etc. We must construct dams and bunds in various parts of the country so that the water can be reserved during the heavy rains and we are saved of the devastation that was there this year. If we follow this, we may be saved to some extent.

I think, God punishes us because we do not care to protect ourselves. The Government should spend money for constructing dams and bunds so that the water could be reserved during heavy rains and this could be used for irrigating land both in the upper and lower regions. As the Government of India and the State Governments have not done their duty, God is punishing both of them in a manner where they have to spend not only the money that they would have ordinarily spent for providing these measures, but hundred-fold and thousand-fold on providing relief measures and taking other action after these natural calamities.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI S K SARKAR (Joynagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you that I have been called to express my view on the subject.

Sir, this is a very serious problem. As the time is short, I do not want to go into the problem in depth; I would

only highlight certain things about the flood control measures that have been taken by the Government.

As regards West Bengal, we can safely say that the flood control measures which had been enunciated by the previous Government by creating DVC project have not been found enough. Necessary flood control measures need to be taken taking into consideration the recommendations which said that twelve dams should be constructed. Ultimately, only four dams were constructed. I would humbly request the hon. Minister to look into this matter again and see that the rest of the dams as recommended are also constructed.

As regards flood control measures as a whole, it must be considered that Ganga is the only drainage river throughout the northern India from Himalya to Bengal. The only outlet of the water is Ganga river. Of course, it has been bifurcated into two rivers; one is Padma and the other is Ganga. But as soon as Ganga river swells up, the embankments of the other rivers and tributaries will not be able to discharge the water.

The Man Singh Committee had gone into the matter. They gave a serious thought to the matter, but they did not take a correct perspective of it. The first problem is to see how we can have the burden of the Ganga flow reduced. Otherwise any measure that we take will be a failure. Ganga is the only river through which all the flows in northern India pass. You should make some channels or rivers and join them with Ganga so that the flow of Ganga can be diverted through other channels and rivers and thus the swelled condition of the Ganga can be lessened as a whole. The river would thus be saved from swelling. The inundation and floods would be controlled to some extent. If we create channels and allow the river flow to fall into Ganga, it will mean

that Ganga will swell more and its discharging capacity will be lessened. So, the vital thing is to see how we can increase the discharging capacity of the Ganga.

The eastern part of the Ganga which is now connected by several canals--and which have already been closed due to passage of time--should be re-opened again. There were two rivers viz. Ichhamti and Bidyadhari which were flowing from the Ganga earlier, but they are now disconnected due to dereliction. I request the Minister to give a serious consideration to my suggestion. I am saying this in the interests of West Bengal, and to save Calcutta. Calcutta is threatened because of the several schemes undertaken for flood control measures of the western part of West Bengal. These will create problems, because the dams which are created, are being silted up regularly; and the rivers which are taking the discharge are also silted up more greatly; and the rivers which are taking the discharge are also silted up by tidal waters. The Hooghly is the only river which is being dredged, but the question is how the other rivers can also be dredged, and thus developed. It is a welcome sign that Ganga has been accepted as a national river. As such I think it is now the responsibility of the Centre to look it after.

This year we might have avoided the flooding of Calcutta and the eastern region of Hooghly, but in the coming years we may not be able to do it. To prevent floods, some control measures should be taken up immediately; and they should be taken with the help of experts. I request the hon. Minister to send an experts' team to make an on-the-spot study in this regard.

In conclusion, I would request that as regards relief measures, the Minister should at least pay heed to the Speaker's opinion, viz. that the relief, rehabilitation and reclamation measures should be taken up in collaboration with the other parties. Thank you.

***SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN** (Burdwan): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this year many States have experienced devastating flood. Many States have suffered extreme loss of property and loss of life due to floods which is well known to the Centre as well as the State Governments. Sir, I myself come from a flood devastated area of West Bengal and want to narrate to you some of the devastations witnessed by me. The loss and damage suffered by West Bengal is slightly on a different footing than that of other States. This is because along with damage to crops and loss of human life and loss of cattle, West Bengal has also suffered heavy loss of industrial raw materials and finished goods and also many productive factories and mills have been heavily damaged. Even several mines have been flooded. But other States did not face this type of multi-faced disasters. Due to flood devastation in West Bengal, power supply and production all over the country has come to be affected adversely. The Railways are not getting adequate supply of coal. Other factories and generation plants are not getting their supply of coal. All the industries all over the country are affected. Even many industries are lying idle due to shortage of coal. The only reason for this dismal state of affair is that out of 143 coal mines in West Bengal as many as 82 coal mines are completely submerged under water. For dewatering each coal mine about 20 to 25 lakhs of rupees are needed. The Central Government is well aware of this fact and I am bringing this to the notice the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation to help him to feel the gravity of flood situation in West Bengal.

Sir, after independence the national Government had planned the DVC dams for controlling floods and irrigation in West Bengal. At that time I was very young and I had dreamt many a golden dream around these

dams. I had gone to see also this dam with great jubilation in my heart as one goes to see the deity. I dreamt that this dam will take my 'Sonar Bangla' towards greater and greater prosperity in the near future. But when I got older I found that this dam was indeed like a mud and straw deity which melted away with the simple touch of water. This is what has happened to this dam in this year's floods.

Sir, Dr. Meghnad Saha and other experts and scientists had said that for controlling the Damoda river effectively at least 12 dams were necessary, on that river, But what did the Government of India do? They constructed only 4 dams. Now the entire country can see what results have come from that decision. The Central Government has to give explanation for that to the whole country today. Not only explanation, countless number of people have lost their lives due to that faulty decision. The village people mostly suffer due the floods. But one to faulty decision regarding Damodar Dam the urban people are also affected this year. The poor village folk have lost their everything in the terrible floods. They have lost their houses, their crops, their cattle and poultry and all other belongings. They are totally ruined. Who will compensate them today? Sir, whatever benefit the farmers get from this dam by way of irrigation waters is completely nullified by a flood. One year's flood causes so much damage that it cannot be made good even in 10 years; This situation cannot be tolerated again and again. Mr. Chairman Sir, through this august House I want to tell the Government that they should either constructed all the dams as recommended by experts or the river must be allowed to flow on its natural course. The rivers are silted with sand which are not cleared. This results in terrible floods. This flood is man-made. Prof. Samar Guha has also said earlier that this is man made. The responsibility

*The original speech was delivered in Bengali.

for man-made floods must be borne by the Central Government. It is not possible for the State Government to undertake this gigantic responsibility. The Central Government has taken the control of the sea and the rivers. Therefore to ask the State Government to undertake the responsibility for floods is totally unjust.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. (Interruptions) .

SHRI RAJ KRISHAN DAWN: I have not completed my speech. No, no.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dawn, your time is over, please sit down.

SHRI RAJ KRISHAN DAWN: I shall take two or three minutes more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I have accommodated you, you also accommodate me.

SHRI RAJ KRISHAN DAWN: All right, one minute more.

Sir, I will submit to the hon. Minister that the system of flood control which is existing in West Bengal is wholly obsolete, today. Either you demolish all these dams and allow the river to flow on its natural course or you implement the whole scheme and construct all the necessary dams as advised by several river experts. The present half-measure is causing great harm. If this is not done then no purpose will be served and every day we will have to speak on floods and will have to depend on the good grace of the Chairman to allow us to speak. I would like to request the Minister kindly do your duty. Sir, you allot more funds to West Bengal, allot more food for West Bengal. Today West Bengal is in great distress. Due to want of bullocks the farmers are unable to cultivate their fields. There are no enough tractors in West Bengal. There is shortage of food. The people of West Bengal are eating whatever you are kind enough to give them. But

3051 LS—11

my 'Sonar Bangla' does not want such an existence. The Central Government will have to give us the right and strength to reconstruct our 'Sonar Bangla'. Unless that is done, the future generations of India will not forgive us.

सभापति महोदय : मैं माननीय सदस्यों को एक बात बता दूँ। देखिए, यह डिबेट 6 बजे तक चलने वाली थी। लेकिन डिबेट 24 मिनट बाद में शुरू हुई थी, इसलिए यह डिबेट 6 वजकर 24 मिनट तक चलेगी। . . . (व्यवधान) . . . इतना आप समझ लीजिए। इसलिये जितना भी मुनासिब होता है उतना बोलिए। आप जब खड़े हो जाते हैं तो कोई बैठने का नाम तो लेता नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा सभ्य एकमोडेट किए जायें। . . . (व्यवधान) . . . प्लीज मिट डाउन (मिस्टर ए. सुब्रह्मण्यम्) . . . (व्यवधान)

श्री श्री लाल (बिजनौर) : आप कृपया जी का प्रस्ताव सुन लीजिए।

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Because many members want to speak, let them speak today. The Minister can reply on some later date at a convenient time to be fixed by the Business Advisory Committee. I hope the Government will accept it.

अम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री लारंग साय) : श्रीमन् माननीय सदस्यों की याद इच्छा हो कि श्री और समय बढ़ाया जाय तो सरकार को भी कोई एतराज नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय : नहीं, नहीं, समय आज 6 वजकर 24 मिनट से आगे नहीं बढ़ाया जा सकता, या तो यह हो सकता है कि मंत्री जी और किसी रोज बोल लें।

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री (श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला) : इस का जबाब आज ही हो जाना चाहिए।

सभापति महोदय : तो इतना टाइम कहाँ है? फिर तो ये सब लोग बोलना चाहते हैं . . .

श्री श्री लाल : अगले दिन होगा

सभापति महोदय : मेरे सामने तो जो प्रोग्राम तय हो गया है उस के हिमाब से अपने आप को गाड़ कर रहा हूँ और आप को मैं ने उस के बारे में बता दिया। . . . (व्यवधान)

श्री श्री लाल : मान्यवर मंत्री जी ने अपनी सहमति दे दी है।

सभापति महोदय : माननीय मंत्री जी अगर इस बात के लिए तैयार हों कि वह किसी और रोज बोलें तो मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है.... (व्यवधान).... मिस्टर मंत्री साह, उन को बोलने दीजिए ।

श्रीधरी बलबोर सिंह : : वह तो बोल लेंगे लेकिन यह कोई बात हुई.... (व्यवधान)....

सभापति महोदय : यह आप को चाहिए कि जो आप के पार्लियामेंट्री प्रफेयर्स के मंत्री जी हैं उन के टाइम फिक्स कीजिए । मेरे वश की बात नहीं है । मैं तो जितना यहां प्रोग्राम रखा है उस के हिसाब से काम कर रहा हूं । (व्यवधान) प्रश्न आप उन को बोलने दीजिए । (व्यवधान)... देखिए, आप सब ने इस तरह से उन का टाइम से लिया, उन को आप बोलने नहीं देते । (व्यवधान)....

श्री उद्योत (देवरिया) : 6 बजे के बाद नहीं हो सकता, तो आप 6 बजे के बाद क्यों करना चाहते हैं ?

श्री सारंग साह : श्रीमन् यदि माननीय सदस्यों की इच्छा हो कि इस को आज ही खत्म कर दिया जाय तो मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है । अगर वह यह भी चाहते हों कि और समय बढ़ा दिया जाय तो भी सरकार को कोई एतराज नहीं है ।

सभापति महोदय : वही तो मैं कह रहा हूँ, आप किसी और रोज अपना टाइम दीजिए ।

श्री सारंग साह : यह हमारे बस की बात नहीं है, ऐडवाइजरी कमेटी जो टाइम फिक्स करेंगे

सभापति महोदय : तो फिर आप क्या कह रहे हैं? जब आप के बस की बात नहीं है तो आप क्या कहना चाहते हैं ? आप तो गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से बोल रहे हैं, तो बताइए कि टाइम बढ़ाया जायगा या किस रोज लिया जायगा ?

श्री सारंग साह यह तो ऐडवाइजरी कमेटी तय करेगी ।

सभापति महोदय : हाँ, तो फिर आज 6 बजकर 25 मिनट से ज्यादा नहीं चलेगा । मिस्टर म्युन्सिपल, प्लीज करी ध्यान ।

*SHRI A MURUGESAN (Ohidambaram): Mr. Chairman, on behalf of All India Anna L.M.K., I wish to participate in the discussion on floods and express my views.

On 5th and 6th November there was unprecedented rains in Tamil Nadu, in Tanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Kanyakumari and the Nilgiris districts. In the Nilgiris district in a landslide 120 people lost their lives and it is estimated that Rs. 80 crores worth of tea estates have been damaged. In Tanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and Kanyakumari districts the loss is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 120 crores. I am sorry that the Central Technical Team is going to visit the affected areas only on 24th of this month.

I am unable to understand the inordinate delay in sending the official team to the affected areas.

17. 56 hrs.

श्रीधरी बलबोर सिंह (होशियार पुर) : सभापति महोदय, सदन में कोरम नहीं है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr Murugesan, please resume your seat. The quorum is being challenged. Let the bell be rung.....There is no quorum.

बोबारा घंटो बजाइ जाये ।

The bell is being rung again.

चूंकि कोरम पूरा नहीं हुआ है, इस लिये सदन स्थगित किया जाता है । अब हम कल इसी स्थान पर 11 बजे फिर मिलेंगे ।

18.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday November 24, 1978/Agrahayana 3, 1900 (Saka).

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.